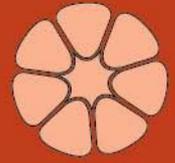




MEDIA RELEASE



Natasha Fyles
SHADOW MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

1 November 2013

TEACHERS SAY NO TO CUTS

Shadow Minister for Education Natasha Fyles today said the crisis in education is deepening following approval today for protected industrial action by teachers.

Ms Fyles called on the CLP to accept that they have made a grave mistake to cut education and that it is time to listen and end the dispute.

“Teachers have voted to undertake industrial action and it’s time for Education Minister Peter Chandler to stop the devastating cuts to education that affect children right across the Territory,” Ms Fyles said.

“Before the election the CLP guaranteed that front line jobs were safe but the government has already cut at least 50 teachers from our schools and another devastating round of cuts is underway – to teachers and support staff that are crucial to delivering a quality education.

“The education cuts are not supported by any evidence that there will be improvements to the learning outcomes of our children – the opposite will occur with losses of subject choices, reduced one-one-one time with our children to support their learning and a stripping away of essential resources that help our teachers deliver courses.

“How does fewer teachers and fewer support staff deliver improved education – it simply defies logic and evidence. It is now time for the CLP to understand that they need to stop these destructive cuts.”

Ms Fyles said that the CLP Government had announced two separate reviews into education – Indigenous and Middle Schools which shows that they are creating cuts before knowing where resources are best applied.

“Teachers have been forced into taking action by the stupidity of the CLP Government at a time when they are busy with end of year activities and reports, this decision would have been incredibly hard for them to make,” Ms Fyles said.

“It is time for the CLP to listen and stop the education cuts.”

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