



Australian Secondary Principals Association

"Advocating for public secondary education"

MEDIA RELEASE

The Australian Secondary Principals' Association (ASPA) welcomes the calls for a review of NAPLAN.

NAPLAN has been used in Australian Schools for the past ten years and this milestone must be marked by a rigorous review into its usefulness and relevance.

ASPA supports the call for a review and highlights the need to examine:

- * The purpose and relevance of NAPLAN
- * How NAPLAN data is collected
- * The use of NAPLAN data
- * The future of this form of testing
- * The value of NAPLAN testing to individual student learning
- * The benefits of NAPLAN for the funds expended.

Andrew Pierpoint, President of the Australian Secondary Principals' Association (ASPA), said: " We believe that, after ten years of operation and the expenditure of significant public money, it is time for the NAPLAN program to be reviewed".

"Since the inception of NAPLAN, more sophisticated diagnostic tools have been developed and are widely used in schools with considerable success. These tools offer timely and targeted interventions which NAPLAN does not".

"There is a strong feeling among Principals in jurisdictions across Australia that the NAPLAN process disrupts and detracts from student learning".

"NAPLAN data is currently used as an inaccurate measure to compare schools and has lost its original focus as a diagnostic learning tool".

- Ends -

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