

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Every School Budget Must Be Reviewed**

The Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) is calling on the Hon Peter Chandler, Minister for Education to review every school budget as a matter of priority.

Mr Gerard Reid, President NT COGSO said today "The Chief Minister this morning has declared that the 3% teachers pay increase due from the date of agreement in December 2014 will be accounted for."

"We are pleased to hear that the Chief Minister, who is also the Treasurer, has now advised that he will account for the missing amount from school budgets."

"The Chief Minister was asked this morning to look into every school that has budget issues and although he stated that his government will, he has only committed to do so for the schools which raise their budget issues"

"COGSO is calling for every school budget to be reviewed not just those who have been able to speak publicly"

"What about the remote schools? What about the single teacher/principal schools? The former group schools who do not have a school council? Who will speak for them?"

"All schools were guaranteed transparency and no cuts. There were to be no impact on Education Plans of a school. In the interest of your guarantees all school budgets need to be reviewed and ensure that no staff or program cuts are made."

"COGSO requests that the Minister and the Treasurer meet as a matter of urgency and prior to the end of the school year on Thursday. We are calling on them both to stand up for our children. Our students in school next year deserve the same staff and programs that the children had this year".





"COGSO advises the Minister and the Treasurer that we are currently holding the information of thirty (30) schools who are in the red. That number is climbing as schools are desperate to be heard". Concluded Mr Reid.

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