

My apologies as I have not been able to give the detail I would like but I notice the deadline is tonight. I'm happy to be contacted for more input if you desire.

I was a Principal in SA remote and country areas for 20 years, one year in head office on secondment and Acting Director at one stage. The panel is welcome to investigate my background and success.

LEADERSHIP The current people in Upper Management often have no school experience. This is in contrast to the days of Director Generals. We follow the USA style cooperate world and do it badly.

Schools have lost their sense of fun. Its data driven specific national curricular etc The only things that needed to be national are Literacy and Numeracy, then we should let fun, flair and creativity take place.

Constantly new teachers would state they were under prepared at Uni. I think a Uni based Apprenticeship style would be best.

The thought of paying the best teachers more will lead to a lack of collegiality. Pushy people will get the extra leaving many did satisfied and there will be no sharing. I say have bonuses for the whole staff if certain bench marks are achieved. For difficult schools like the Aboriginal school I was in I suggest a team of leaders apply as a group and all staff get more pay.

Country incentives . Basically they are chicken feed. Did you know teachers rarely get paid for using their own car?

Treatment of older staff is a problem. They don't always retire with dignity and they are sometimes bitter and not respected. \$50000 packages for old burnt out teachers. What's the message?

Did you know that Principal applications numbers have dropped in the last two decades. The result is sometimes nil or one applicant and regularly leaders with little experience get the job.

Protection. Being threatened , sworn at etc should carry a large consequence. Eg I was threatened with 'We will burn your house down and kill your kids'.

The media have a role. Have you noticed they use freedom of information to publish bad information about public schools?