



Petition

Registration No.	28
Title	Education cuts – staff numbers
Presented on	Tuesday 26 November 2013
Presented by	MS ALISON ANDERSON (Member for Namatjira)
Referred to	Minister for Education (Hon. Peter Chandler MLA)
Date referred	26 November 2013
Response due	18 March 2014
Response received	30 January 2014
Response to be presented	11 February 2014

Petition

Petition Against Education Cuts

To the Honourable Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

We the undersigned, respectfully showeth that our community is united in the belief that the staffing cuts proposed by the Department of Education will have a detrimental effect on the education of students across the Northern Territory. The citizens of our community believe that reducing the number of staff in schools will decrease the achievement standards of students attending Northern Territory Government schools.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the N.T Government will re-assess the proposed changes to staff numbers.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Response

The new teacher staffing allocation model places more emphasis on the importance of early years schooling and ensures a more equitable approach to educational delivery across all stages of schooling. While the middle years and senior stages will be impacted upon, the student teacher ratios will be comparable to those in other jurisdictions. In addition, maximum class sizes will remain at 27 students unless otherwise agreed as per the current *Northern Territory Public Sector Teacher and Educator 2010 - 2013 Enterprise Agreement*.

Principals have worked closely with their staff and school communities to undertake workforce planning to align staff resources with educational program delivery in their schools.

The Department of Education is currently undertaking a review of Indigenous education and will undertake additional reviews of education in middle and senior years. The outcomes of these reviews will provide the Department of Education with clear evidence for future staffing and resourcing needs for Northern Territory schools.