

FACIMILE TRANSMISSION

ATTENTION:	Mr Barry O'Farrell MP NSW Opposition Leader Fax: (02) 9221 8208
FROM:	Amanda Credaro PRIVATE POSTAL ADDRESS SUPPLIED Email: acredaro@optusnet.com.au
SUBJECT:	Teacher Librarians in NSW Government Schools

Dear Mr O'Farrell,

Many thanks for your response dated 23rd October 2007 (copy attached) in relation to my communication with you of 20th October 2007.

Once again, it is most heartening to read of your sharing the concerns of myself and my 2000-plus colleagues who are employed as Teacher Librarians by the NSW Department of Education and Training. Incidentally, in the last week another three of those colleagues announced their intention to resign from the Department – due largely to those very same four issues that I have been unsuccessfully attempting to have the Minister address.

My local state member, Paul Gibson, stated in a phone conversation to me that the wide-ranging “principals’ discretionary powers” – for which there is neither requirement for justification nor mechanism for appeal – have been granted by the Department. However, the folly of that decision is becoming increasingly more evident.

Mr O'Farrell, it appears that in the current year, only the Greens Party have questioned the Minister on the floor in regard to issues relating to public education.

Would it not be possible for you or a member of the Opposition to ask the Minister at least one of the original questions?

Further, why isn't the Minister considering any of the suggestions that are without any additional cost? Why has the Minister allowed the information I have provided to be “referred to the Industrial Relations Directorate to inform future discussions”? Why won't the Minister conduct the independent survey that was suggested, so as to inform the Department as to the extent of the inequities between different schools of comparable composition? Is the Department unwilling to address those inequities, and if so why?

Whilst I am more than happy to keep you informed of any progress relating to the issues, I am hoping that you and the Opposition will adopt a proactive role in addressing these concerns.

Thanking you in advance for any active support,

Amanda Credaro
18th November 2007