MORE CUTS AHEAD FOR TERRITORY SCHOOLS

Shadow Minister for Education, Nicole Manison, said many Territory schools will experience cuts in 2015 at the hands of the CLP Government under their Global School Budget policy.

“Under the CLP Government’s Global School Budgets there is not enough funding and schools are having to cut teachers, subjects and support for students,” Ms Manison said.

“That means crowded classrooms for our children with even less support for our teachers – our schools are under serious stress.”

The President of NT Council of Government School Organisations, COGSO, Gerard Reid on speaking about Global School Budgets told ABC radio today that ‘we’re greatly disappointed that this is essentially being used as a smoke screen for another round of ferocious cuts in the last two weeks of the school year. So it's left us looking a little bit uncomfortable and quite disappointed with the whole approach and feel like we’ve been rather used’.

The President of the Australian Education Union, Jarvis Ryan also told ABC radio today that under the Global School Budget model ‘some of the bigger secondary schools, Darwin High School, Casuarina and so on are many hundreds of thousands of dollars in the red and what that will mean is the loss of dozens, you know if not more than 100 positions across the Territory as a whole and what it means is that a lot of contract teachers, temporary teachers who are contacting our office who are despairing because they won’t have a job next year’.

“This is despite the Education Minister Peter Chandler promising that no school will be worse off under global school budgets,” Ms Manison said.

“The reality is that schools are now worse off and they are having to make cuts for the third straight year under the CLP Government.

“The Minister needs to honour his promise and make sure schools are not worse off in 2015.

“Principals and School Councils are now having to make tough decisions around who to cut so they can get their budgets into the black.
“Education is vital to the future of the Territory and it is an area already cut to the bone under the CLP Government.

“That is another brutal process for many school teachers going into Christmas.”

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