

Hi Jessica,

As a parent with children in the public school system, I fully support all the points you have listed in your communication.

I know first hand the effects of bullying has not only on the child but also the parents and anyway we can help teachers and staff eliminate this in schools has my backing.

More engagement between the schools and parents is always welcome in my eyes as sometimes what the teaches see at school can be totally different to what the parents see at home. If we can be on the same page in the child's learning then it makes for a better education process and end result for the child.

With allied health, if this can reduce the stress of parents especially with the current cost of living crisis, then I am all for it. Its hard enough to get assessments done now but if this can be at least started and supported through the school system then that's a win in my eyes. As for enticing and retaining staff, I believe that if we offer incentives for Allied Health Professionals, like maybe reducing or removing their HECS debt after a set period in the public health system, that would be a good start.

As for maintenance and capital expenditure, your proposal of an external independent board for this has a lot of merit. Just because schools are in "trendy" areas or higher affluent areas should not have an impact to who gets funding first. It is well known that if a student is comfortable then they have a greater chance of retaining the knowledge passed on from the schools. If teachers are working in lower standard infrastructure then they can not do their job well which then reflects on the school and the education department as a whole and then parents get annoyed with the system.

The review of not only year 11 & 12, but also the TAFE system, should be reviewed on a regular basis every 5 years apart at most, even more frequent when possible.

And finally, we should have free busses for all students in public schools and have more dedicated busses for the school runs in all regions. There has been a lot of residential development, especially in the area I live that there is not even a bus service within a reasonable distance from homes let alone school busses and that is in Launceston.

I hope I have given you an insight to my thinking and also how important the public school system is in shaping this state. Very few of us can afford the education provided by private education and parents should not have to accept a lower standard of education due to their economic status.

Kind Regards,
Daniel Groat
Independent Candidate for Bass