DISTANCE EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

The aim of the Distance Education portfolio is to bring any concerns to State Council regarding the education of geographically isolated students in South Australia, keep SA ICPA members up to date on any State and Federal issues and concerns, help write and raise motions for conferences and be a source of information for members regarding Distance Education. It is a broad portfolio with interests ranging from education and technology to delivering curriculum and student support. It also covers the advocacy of supervisors and governesses, promoting the hard work they do behind the scenes educating our children.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED (STATE & FEDERAL)

- Senate support from Pauline Hanson for the Rural Hardship Education Fund
- Ensuring internet rebates are available to our School of the Air families
- Travel allowances for families travelling to and from town for school events
- Working alongside Port Augusta School of the Air to achieve autonomy
- Maintaining the important service of the Itinerant Teacher role

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

- ICPA advocates that Schools of the Air and Schools of Distance Education remain in rural and remote communities
- ICPA requests a separate category for geographically isolated students be brought in so they are not lost amongst the realm of others being taught via distance education
- The Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Distance Education Allowance to be extended to the pre-schoolers studying by distance education
- Financial recognition of Distance Education Tutors for their supervision of the 1500 families studying by distance education who have no other option
- An increase in the AIC allowances to help rural and remote families afford compulsory education for the 11,000 children who have no daily access to face-to-face schooling due to distance and a Rural Hardship Education Fund set up for assistance through prolonged drought or other times of rural hardship.

**ADVOCATING
FOR RURAL
AND REMOTE
EDUCATION**