

Established in 1971, the Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) is a national organisation representing regional students and their families at all stages of education and has a large network of branches throughout Australia.

# MEDIA RELEASE

12<sup>TH</sup> August 2024

## **THE REGIONAL EDUCATION STRATEGY DOES NOT GO FAR ENOUGH!**

The Isolated Children's Parents' Association WA (ICPA WA) is calling on all rural, regional and remote parents, teachers, principals, school councils, P&Cs and any other community groups to provide testimonies on how the current education system is failing their schools.

Minister for Education Dr Tony Buti has released the "Regional Education Strategy" for public consultation. This important document will significantly influence future budgets, decisions and the direction of education for ALL regional, rural and remote students.

Numerous schools in rural, regional and remote WA are struggling to attract quality teachers, retain good staff, are not eligible for incentives, have staff housing, problems with multi-age learning and teacher support.

ICPA WA President Jane Cunningham said, *"If we want to see change and improve the current system we need to put a name to these stories, we need people to submit their experiences of what is and is not working on the ground as part of this consultation process"*.

*"Once a real-life example is given of how things are impacting people on the ground, how policies, if tweaked could create so much positive change, the results are massive"*, said Mrs Cunningham.

Mrs Cunningham said, *"There is no point complaining if we don't take these opportunities to make some positive change, we all need to speak up and out so we can create a better education system for our country students together"*.

If anyone requires assistance with their stories ICPA WA is more than happy to help. They are encouraging people to contact them through email via [WAPublicity@icpa.com.au](mailto:WAPublicity@icpa.com.au)

The Regional Education strategy can be accessed via the Department of Education's website at <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/dl/m4vl94px>

Submissions are to be emailed to [regional.education.feedback@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:regional.education.feedback@education.wa.edu.au) prior to September 21, 2024.

For more comments contact:

Mrs Jane Cunningham  
[WAPresident@icpa.com.au](mailto:WAPresident@icpa.com.au)  
0438 160 577

**THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO  
INFLUENCE CHANGE FOR ALL  
COUNTRY KIDS!**

**Attraction of  
QUALITY staff**

**Improved  
teacher support**

**Increased incentives  
for ALL country  
teachers**

**Increased support  
for multi-aged  
learning**

Submit YOUR stories/experiences to:

**[regional.education.feedback@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:regional.education.feedback@education.wa.edu.au)**

