



# Joint Press Release

## Mark McGowan MLA, Roger Cook MLA, Paul Papalia CSC, MLA

**Tuesday, 5 August 2014**

### **Liberals attack the poorest schools**

Colin Barnett's state Liberal government has launched a cruel attack on some of the state's most challenged high schools, local MPs Mark McGowan, Roger Cook and Paul Papalia said today.

Mr McGowan was outraged by the cuts to both state high schools in the electorate of Rockingham.

"Nobody can possibly suggest Rockingham or Safety Bay High Schools are rolling in money yet Colin Barnett has decided to slam them with cuts amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars a year", said Mr McGowan.

"It's unfair and wrong but exactly what people have come to expect from this appalling state government."

Mr Cook challenged Colin Barnett to justify his cuts to Gilmore College in Kwinana.

"The people of Kwinana have been hurt hard by massive increases to household costs under the Barnett government and now their kid's education is being attacked" Mr Cook said.

"How can the Liberals possibly explain cutting funding to Kwinana's local high school which is the pathway for these young people to build a better future?"

Mr Papalia pointed to a recent Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) report as a reason why Warnbro Community High School should get more funding not less.

"The 2012 AEDI results confirmed kids in Warnbro are two and a half times more vulnerable than kids elsewhere in the state" said an angry Mr Papalia. "Bizarrely, it's these kids who Colin Barnett has targeted with his latest cuts".

"Schools across the Warnbro electorate already suffered a \$3.3 million hit in last year's budget but Colin Barnett isn't satisfied with that and wants to punish them even more."

The MPs vowed to take the defence of local schools to the state parliament when it resumes sitting next week.

School	Warnbro CHS	Warnbro CHS Ed Support	Rockingham SHS	Safety Bay SHS	Gilmore College
Annual cut	\$250,000	\$242,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000