

## **Channel Nine News 02/02/2010**

Upton: The Opposition says the controversial My Schools website has highlighted systemic failures in the Territory's education system. It's released a table comparing the literacy and numeracy results of Darwin schools showing only a few are meeting the national average.

Fraser: CLP leader Terry Mills delivered his report card on the Territory's education system this afternoon and the results were grim.

Mills: This is a bad report. A very bad report.

Fraser: The former principal producing a table comparing the results of Territory Government schools using figures from the My School's website to prove his point. The poorest performing schools highlighted in a sea of pink.

Mills: What we see plainly presented here, particularly in the Government Schools, not one of them has passed the basic standards in all areas. Not one of them.

Fraser: The Oppositions figures show Larrakeyah, Leanyer and Moil Primary Schools were Darwin's high achievers, as well as Darwin Middle School but the remainder were either below or significantly below the national average. While the CLP succeed in highlighting problems in the education system it didn't offer a solution to fix them, although it promises to release a robust policy response within the next week. Launching as office to support young Territorians with cancer the Chief Minister maintained his argument that local schools are on par with those interstate based on figures comparing like schools. Claiming good results are being brought down by a minority of students.

Henderson: The tragic and sad fact is that too many indigenous kids don't go to school everyday. Too many indigenous kids are missing school and that's dragging down results right across the system.

Fraser: Naming and shaming the worst performing schools is exactly what the education union wanted to avoid when it opposed the My Schools website launched nearly a week ago. Only time will tell if it will help or hinder our education system.