

**Submission
No 59**

**INQUIRY INTO THE BUILDING THE EDUCATION
REVOLUTION PROGRAM**

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GPSC2 GPSC2 - Dumb design in school buildings

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Subject: Dumb design in school buildings

I despair for our nation's future.

After decades of pleading for some investment in public education, the new buildings we are getting are not only overpriced but are built facing the wrong way!

Yes, that's right, we're decades into the climate change century and our builders still can't even align our new buildings to get free heating from the sun. My school's new structure has NO windows in the north side (so we get no solar gain in winter), has windows on the west side, but no verandah, (which means we'll swelter in summer afternoons) and the Solar PV panels are shaded for half the day.

There should be a mechanism for consulting with the people who will actually use the new buildings; many schools and small communities have considerable local expertise. (I have decades of experience in solar design and construction and tried to have some input into the orientation of the building, but was ignored.) Now we're stuck with a dumb design for a century or so, the likely working life of Public School buildings. What a clever little country...