

Submission  
No 166

**INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH  
WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 11 July 2022

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Partially  
Confidential

I am a second generation teacher.

My mother, aunt and uncle are teachers. They all taught at HSC level, and taught students who were in the top 10 of their year at HSC - one taught Eddie Woo in senior years. Out of their five children, three of us became teachers. We saw a career that was hard work and fulfilling, but also allowed our parents to raise us as competent adults.

One has already ceased her teaching career. I read tonight on her facebook feed the reaction of students finding out that she had made the difficult decision to stop teaching and pursue another path. They were universally supportive of her, and lamenting that a teacher who had made a huge positive impact on them was no longer making that impact on other students.

I am gathering the courage to seek employment elsewhere. I live on the edge of regional NSW. I have the ability and the desire to provide students with opportunities they cannot access in the community due to our remoteness, but the system has almost taken its toll. I run a combined choral festival that will not happen without me (try as I might to recruit and train others to take my place), so my leaving the public education system will not just affect those who might have been in my class.

And I the third one of us knows that she is stuck where she is. (Primary). She doesn't not want to become an assistant principal, but cannot move schools to learn new skills or explore other ways of teaching as she has spent much of the last decade working around her family.

I don't know what the answer is, but how is the system going right when so many of us are at breaking point?