

To the House of Representatives

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL – NATIONAL STANDARDS PETITION

We request that the House of Representatives

delay the introduction of National Standards until all the following parental concerns are satisfied:

1. That all possible causes of primary school children failing to attain satisfactory levels of literacy and numeracy have been explored, including factors entrenched in the preschool years.
2. That funds will not be diverted from the diverse range of lessons and activities currently explored in New Zealand's classrooms; while literacy and numeracy are essential basic skills, more attention needs to be paid to drawing out each child's unique skills. In New Zealand we do not just raise professionals and academics. We also produce philanthropists, Master Chefs, entrepreneurs and All Blacks. This diversity contributes to the rich social fabric of New Zealand and enhances New Zealand's political and economic standing on the world stage.
3. That collated information not be available to agencies outside the Ministry of Education.

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Please return this petition to Monique Watson, PO Box 22283 Khandallah Wellington 6441 or to your school office for collection by Monday 22nd March 2010.