

Budgets cut by \$4 million

THE state government will cut a further \$4 million from the second round of funding cuts from a total of 27 public high schools in the Agricultural Region.

Many of these schools have already been hit by funding cuts as part of the government stripping \$185 million from WA school budgets this year.

Nearly one in three WA schools will suffer funding cuts as a result of the government's new funding model.

Nearly eighty WA high schools will lose \$250,000 in funding next year with further cuts likely in coming years.

Many of the schools facing cuts are in lower socio-economic areas across Perth and regional WA.

"Parents in the Agricultural Region have a right to be angry because their children are being picked on to pay for Mr Barnett's waste and mismanagement," Agricultural Region MLC Darren West said.

"This latest round of cuts comes on top of \$11.5m ripped out of education across the region last year.

"In all 79 WA schools have been targeted for the largest cut of \$250,000 each.

"The government's own figures expose the extent of the cuts to school budgets across WA," Mr West said.

"Regional students should be getting extra help – not less – to ensure they have opportunities comparable to those in the city.

"It's an insult for Education Minister Peter Collier to say these schools are getting what they deserve'.

"I support a simpler funding model but I don't believe in ripping money out of regional schools where students need help."

Secondary schools affected in this region include Carnamah District High School \$117,000; Central Midlands

Senior High School \$214,000; Gingin District High School \$42,000; Jurien Bay District High School \$182,000; Wongan Hills District High School \$219,000 and Wyalkatchem \$9000.

Central Midlands & Coastal Advocate

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