

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

**FUNDS TO CATER FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE A DISABILITY OR
SPECIAL LEARNING NEED**

QUESTION

**BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – FUNDS TO CATER FOR STUDENTS
WHO HAVE A DISABILITY OR SPECIAL LEARNING NEED** – The Hon Dr John
Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

1. What funds have been provided to cater for the needs of the 5.8% of public school students who have a disability or special learning need?

ANSWER

In New South Wales 12% of students in public schools have disability and/or additional learning needs. The Government has allocated \$1.18 billion for special education in the 2011/12 financial year.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

PROCEDURES TO ENSURE CHILDREN ARE ENROLLED/ATTENDING SCHOOL

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – PROCEDURES TO ENSURE CHILDREN ARE ENROLLED/ATTENDING SCHOOL – The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

2. Can the Minister state how many cases there were in the years 2010–2011 where the Department of Education proceeded against parents for failing to ensure that their child is enrolled at, and is attending school?
 - a. Can the average cost per case be provided?
 - b. What are the performance/effectiveness measures that were built into these procedures?
 - c. Do we see any positive outcomes for both schools and young people as a result of these actions?

ANSWER

2. In 2010, there were 328 legal actions undertaken by the Department of Education and Communities to address poor school attendance. In 2011, there have been 366 cases commenced to date.
 - a. Yes it can and I will provide it now. On average, each case costs approximately \$300 in external expenditure. This does not take account of the salaries and on-costs of relevant staff in the Department.
 - b. An evaluation of the effectiveness of the conference procedures has been commenced. It is intended to evaluate other aspects of the procedures following completion of the evaluation of the conferencing component.
 - c. Yes.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

AUSTRALIAN SENATE INQUIRY INTO CHILDREN INTO INSTITUTIONAL CARE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – AUSTRALIAN SENATE INQUIRY INTO CHILDREN IN INSTITUTIONAL CARE – The Hon John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

3. What measures has the New South Wales Government taken to put into practice recommendations 29, 30, 32 and 33 of the Australian Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care?
 - a. What recurrent funding has the Government provided to the Care Leavers Australia Network or to other such service providers for care leavers?
 - b. Have these services received adequate advertising funding so that care leavers can be made aware of such educational services?

ANSWER

3. In relation to recommendation 29, TAFE NSW has a range of programs and support services for people needing to develop their literacy and numeracy, including specialist language and literacy teachers across all 10 TAFE Institutes.

TAFE NSW also manages the national Reading and Writing Hotline, a service that refers adults to appropriate service providers to improve their reading and writing skills and abilities, on behalf of the Australian Government. Annually, a third of all callers are from New South Wales. The Hotline is promoted through television and radio advertising, primarily through community service announcements, and may be accessed through the Internet.

Adult and Community Education Colleges also provide accredited language, literacy and numeracy programs across New South Wales. These Colleges work in the local community to promote and deliver training that is designed specifically to meet the needs of at-risk clients, emphasising client support to achieve successful training and labour market outcomes.

Colleges promote these programs widely in a variety of ways, including through college brochures, the media and through partnerships and networking with local community and service agencies.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

AUSTRALIAN SENATE INQUIRY INTO CHILDREN INTO INSTITUTIONAL CARE (continued)

In relation to recommendation 30, the New South Wales Government is supporting development of improved pathways into higher education to lift participation and completion levels, with a particular focus on people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In relation to recommendations 32 and 33, this question should be referred to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Family and Community Services as it falls within their portfolios.

- a. & b. There have been no grants provided to the Care Leavers Australia Network by the Education and Training part of the Department of Education and Communities. Further, these questions should be referred to the Minister for Family and Community Services as they fall within her portfolio.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN NSW SCHOOLS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN NSW SCHOOLS – The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

4. What will be the timeframe for the replacement of the remaining unflued gas heaters in NSW public schools?
 - a. How many will be replaced before winter commences in June 2012?
 - b. What alternative heaters have been recommended as safer, environmentally friendly alternatives?

ANSWER

4. It is not possible to provide a timeframe for the replacement of the remaining unflued gas heaters in NSW public schools at this time.
 - a. Unflued gas heaters will be replaced at six schools between October 2011 and June 2012 as part of the previous Government's program to replace heaters in 101 schools in the coldest locations in the state.
 - b. Environmental Resources Management provided its final report on the Environmental Health Risk Assessment to the Department of Education and Communities. Cabinet will consider the report and its recommendations.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

SCHOOL LEARNING SUPPORT TRIAL IN THE ILLAWARRA

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – SCHOOL LEARNING SUPPORT TRIAL IN THE ILLAWARRA – The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

5. Can the Minister comment on the status of the School Learning Support Trial in the Illawarra?
 - a. When is the evaluation on the program due to be made?
 - b. Are Special Language Classes, intensive reading classes and Early Support Classes to be reinstated in Illawarra Schools in 2012?
 - c. How does the Government intend to meet the educational requirements of the rising number of students with special needs while providing no additional funding as outlined in the 2011 Budget?

ANSWER

5. The trial of a new model for supporting students with additional learning needs commenced in April 2010. New South Wales is currently finalising with the Australian Government a National Partnership on support for students with disabilities. The trial arrangements are continuing in the Illawarra and South East Region pending finalisation of this National Partnership Agreement.
 - a. Evaluations of the trial were completed in Semester 1, 2011.
 - b. No initiatives or announcements around special education will be made until after the National Partnership on support for students with disabilities has been finalised.
 - c. The budget for special education in 2011/12 is \$1.18 billion. This is an increase on last year's budget of \$30 million.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

**FUNDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AND FURTHER CONSULTATION ON
DRAFT SYLLABUS ENGLISH, MATHS, SCIENCE AND HISTORY –
DR JOHN KAYE MLC**

QUESTION

**BUDGET ESTIMATES - EDUCATION - FUNDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
AND FURTHER CONSULTATION ON DRAFT SYLLABUS ENGLISH, MATHS,
SCIENCE AND HISTORY – Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –**

6. Is funding to be made available for the development of and further consultation on the Draft Syllabus in English, Maths, Science and History?
 - a. Is funding to be made available for teachers in NSW to be consulted with in the development of Phase 2 of the Australian Curriculum documents?
 - b. What additional funding will be provided to schools for Teacher Professional Development and the development of resources prior to the sending of the Final Australian Curriculum Syllabus Documents to schools in 2013?
 - c. Will additional funding be made available for consultation with teachers to incorporate the recently released achievement Standards for the Australian Curriculum into the BOS documents?

ANSWER

6. Yes
 - a. Yes
 - b. The additional funding required is the subject of ongoing discussions with the Commonwealth Government.
 - c. Yes

**Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education**

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

MANN STREET, GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – MANN STREET, GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL – The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

7. Does the Government intend to sell the Mann St site of Gosford Public School and what is the estimated revenue to be gained from such a sale?
 - a. What costs are involved if the school was to be relocated to an alternative site to Henry Kendall, such as disused commercial sites within the Gosford Central Business area?

ANSWER

7. Yes. The Department cannot release its valuations of the site because this could compromise the fairness of any future process to sell the property.
 - a. The building costs to build a primary school on an alternative site would be similar to the cost of building a primary school on the Henry Kendall site. The Department is not aware of any suitable commercial sites in the Gosford Central Business Area and is unable to provide other costings.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
QUESTION ON NOTICE
PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL FEES

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL FEES –

The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

8. How will the imposition of compulsory public school preschool fees and the establishment of a competitive market in preschools make preschool education more affordable to more children, particularly disadvantaged children?

ANSWER

The introduction of fees will bring government preschools in line with the wider early childhood sector in New South Wales, where parents pay fees. Children in government preschools are only 1.6% of children in early childhood education and care in NSW

The new fee structure supports low income, disadvantaged families and Aboriginal children over all other children seeking a place and provides measures such as fee relief and fee exemptions. In some of our preschools, families may actually pay less than they do now, as some preschools have a compulsory meal program which will become optional next year.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NATIONAL QUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – NATIONAL QUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION – The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

9. The NSW Government has signed up to the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education that provides access to 15 hours preschool for children in the year before school.
 - a. What government funding has been set aside for the provision of the 15 hours with respect to:
 - i. the function of the regulator in the Office of Early Childhood;
 - ii. DEC public school preschools;
 - iii. community preschools;
 - iv. special education provision in community preschools;
 - v. special education provision in public school preschools;
 - vi. improving Aboriginal participation in preschool; and
 - vii. early intervention services?
 - b. What does the government see as its role in the funding of preschool education to create a user pays market or to expand the provision of public preschools?
 - c. What is the proposed fee structure for DEC preschools from 2012?
 - d. How much money does the government expect to collect from the imposition of preschool fees in 2012?
 - e. Where will the money collected be spent?
 - f. What is the estimated value of preschool exemptions in 2012?
 - g. Community preschools are able to access integration funding. What plans are in place for DEC preschools to access integration funding?
 - h. What plans does the government have for the imposition of means tested fees in other areas of public education?
 - i. Should public school parents be required to pay the same fees as the local private school in order to ensure “consistency” across the education sectors?

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NATIONAL QUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)

ANSWER

- a.
 - i. The operating budget of the Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate in 2011/12 is approximately \$12 million. The bulk of this expenditure is directed to the regulation of providers of early childhood education and care services in New South Wales. Under the National Partnership for the National Quality Agenda, New South Wales will receive \$26.9 million over 2010/11 to 2013/14 to support transition to the new regulatory framework in the State.
 - ii. Department of Education and Communities public school preschools are wholly funded by the NSW Government.
 - iii. Community preschools will receive approximately \$117 million in subsidies in 2011/12 to contribute to access to preschool programs, which includes the 15 hour goal.
 - iv. Around \$13.1 million in 2011/12 will be provided to support children with special needs in community preschools through the Supporting Children with Additional Needs (SCAN) program. In addition, in 2011 more than \$11 million has been allocated through the Intervention Support Program (known as ISP) to support children with confirmed disabilities from birth to school age, attending not for profit community organisations that operate community preschools, long day care, occasional day care, family day care and specialist early childhood intervention services.
 - v. The Government has established an independent Review of NSW Government Funding for Early Childhood Education and special education provision in public school preschools is in the scope of the Review.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NATIONAL QUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)

- vi. Around \$10 million in 2011/12 is being provided in per child preschool subsidies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in community preschools.
- vii. The 15 hours National Partnership on Early Childhood Education goal does not apply to early intervention services.
- b. The NSW Government's objective in funding preschool education is to ensure that all children in New South Wales have access to a quality early childhood education program in the 12 months prior to formal schooling by 2013.
- c. The fee structure for preschool classes in government schools in 2012 is on the Department of Education and Communities' website at https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/administrative/financial/preschool_fees/Preschool_fee_sched.pdf.
- d., e. & f. We do not know how much will be raised in 2012. It will depend on the circumstance of each family and any fee relief or exemptions provided.

The NSW Government heavily subsidises our preschool classes in government schools and will continue to do so. Any funding collected will go into the overall operational budget of the Department which includes preschool education in 100 government schools.
- g. The Government will await the recommendations of the Review of NSW Government Funding for Early Childhood Education.
- h. None.
- i. No.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

DUAL TRAINED TEACHER-LIBRARIANS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – DUAL TRAINED TEACHER-LIBRARIANS –

The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

10. How many dual trained teacher-librarians are employed in libraries in New South Wales public schools and how many of these are in schools that have been affected by the federal Building the Education Revolution?
 - a. How many teachers-in-charge, who do not have any library training, are employed in libraries in New South Wales public schools?
 - i. How many of these schools are affected by the BER?
 - b. How many librarians, without teacher training, are employed in libraries in New South Wales public schools?
 - i. How many of these have been affected by the federal Building the Education Revolution?
 - c. How many public primary schools are there in New South Wales that do not employ a qualified teacher-librarian?
 - d. How many public secondary schools are there in New South Wales that employ a qualified teacher-librarian?
 - i. How many of these schools are affected by the BER?
 - e. Is the minister aware of allegations put forward by the Inquiry into School Libraries and Teacher Librarians in Australian Schools, that Australia is facing a decline in qualified teacher librarians in its school libraries?
 - i. Does the Minister accept these allegations?
 - f. How does the Minister plan to address the lack of qualified teacher librarians in New South Wales schools?
 - g. Will the Minister ensure that teacher librarians continue to be staffed in school libraries under the new formula, in spite of possible moves towards localised staffing under the local schools, local decision initiative?

ANSWER

10. As at 28 October 2011, there are 1,084 teacher-librarians who are also qualified primary or secondary school teachers. There are 1,057 schools which have been funded for projects under the Building the Education Revolution Program where these teachers are working.
 - a. None.
 - i. Not applicable.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

DUAL TRAINED TEACHER-LIBRARIANS (continued)

- b. None.
- i. Not applicable.

- c. As at 28 October 2011, there are 98 public primary schools in New South Wales that have a teacher-librarian who does not have library qualifications registered on the Department of Education and Communities' personnel system. In addition, 21 public primary schools have a teacher-librarian who is currently undertaking the teacher-librarian retraining program.

- d. As at 28 October 2011, 328 public secondary schools in New South Wales have a permanently appointed qualified teacher-librarian and 8 public secondary schools have a teacher currently undertaking the teacher librarian retraining program.
 - i. Of these 336 schools, 334 schools have been funded under the BER Program.

- e.& i. I am aware of the findings of the Inquiry into School Libraries and Teacher Librarians in Australian Schools and the Department has strategies in place to maintain a supply of teacher librarians.

- f. In addition to attracting qualified teacher-librarians through its Teach.NSW promotional campaign, each year the Department sponsors teachers wishing to become teacher-librarians to undertake a rigorous postgraduate teacher-librarian retraining program. Employment as a teacher-librarian is guaranteed upon successful completion of the program.

- g. The Department of Education and Communities, through a formal, public consultation process, is seeking and considering feedback about how to achieve best outcomes for students. One of the aspects being explored in this consultation relates to the authority schools should have to determine and select the right mix of staff.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KENNEDY REPORT – DUBBO COLLEGE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KENNEDY REPORT – DUBBO COLLEGE – The Hon Dr John Kaye MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

11.

- a. Will the Minister implement the recommendations of the Kennedy Report and dismantle the ‘Dubbo College model’ and reinstate three stand-alone 7–12 public schools in Dubbo?
 - i. If not, why not?
- b. Will the Minister confirm he does not intend to implement the ‘Dubbo College model’ in other regional areas of NSW?
 - i. If not, why not?

ANSWER

11.

- a. No.
 - i. The Kennedy Report did not recommend the establishment of three stand-alone public secondary schools in Dubbo.
- b. No.
 - i. Any decision taken to change the model of educational delivery relies heavily on knowledge of the local context. This knowledge is best sought from each local school community, their School Education Director and Regional Director.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
QUESTION ON NOTICE
2010 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORTS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – 2010 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORTS –

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

12. Did all schools produce their 2010 Annual Reports and make them available to parents by the end of June 2011?

ANSWER

All schools produced their Annual Reports for 2010.

The Department had received 97% of reports by the end of June 2011.

Individual schools have the responsibility of making Annual School Reports available to parents, including on the Internet.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
QUESTION ON NOTICE
DEC RISK OF HARM REPORTS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – DEC RISK OF HARM REPORTS–

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

13. Is information about significant risk of harm reports from Education and Training to Community Services for the period from 31 March 2011 to 30 June 2011 now available, and how many reports have been made for this period?

ANSWER

This information is not yet available.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NAPLAN TEST RESULTS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – NAPLAN TEST RESULTS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education -

14. On 20 May 2011 it was reported in the Daily Telegraph that the Minister had asked the Director General of the Department to ensure NAPLAN test results were not used as part of the enrolment process in public schools. Did you make such a request and what action has occurred as a result of this?

ANSWER

On 25 October 2011, I provided a response to the question to the Hon Marie Ficarra MLC, Chair of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2, as follows:

“I wish to make a clarification after yesterday’s (24 October) Budget Estimates hearing.

I refer to page 5 of the uncorrected proof and a line of questioning from the Honourable Helen Westwood about a direction given by me to the Director-General of the Department of Education and Communities with regard to an investigation of the use of NAPLAN data by schools when enrolling students.

At no stage did I direct the Director-General to conduct an investigation into the use of NAPLAN data by schools when enrolling students.

On the 19th of May evidence of high schools using NAPLAN data to make decisions about out of area applications for enrolments was brought to my attention.

Through a spokesman I provided Jenny Dillon at the Daily Telegraph with this statement:

“I have asked the Director-General of the department to ensure that the policy regarding the enrolment process is followed by all schools and that NAPLAN test results are not used for purposes for which they were not intended, which includes being used as part of the enrolment decision process.

“NAPLAN data is used as a tool to assist students with their learning needs. It is not to be used as part of any enrolment decision process.

“Any schools found misusing NAPLAN data will be told by the Department to immediately obey the policy in this regard.”

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
QUESTION ON NOTICE
NAPLAN TEST RESULTS (Continued)

This was reported in Jenny Dillon's article in the Daily Telegraph on 20 May:

With the danger that parents will be pressured to withdraw their children from the tests because of the practice, state Education Minister Adrian Piccoli said he had asked the Director-General of the department to ensure Naplan test results were not used as part of the enrolment process in public schools.

"Naplan data is used as a tool to assist students with their learning needs," he said. "It is not to be used as part of any enrolment decision process."

At this time I also requested that the Director-General of the Department of Education and Communities send a message to all principals, school education directors and regional directors reminding them of the Department's policy about NAPLAN data and enrolments.

The policy is that it is not practice, nor is it recommended practice, for NSW public schools to use NAPLAN results as a part of any enrolment.

On the 20th of May the Director General of the Department of Education and Communities communicated this message by email to all principals, school education directors and regional directors.

That communication included the line:

In the context of an application for enrolment in a NSW government school, I would like to reinforce that the provision of NAPLAN test data is not a requirement for enrolment in a NSW government school and is not to be used when assessing non-local enrolment applications."

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

LITERACY AND NUMERACY ACTION PLAN

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION - LITERACY AND NUMERACY ACTION PLAN – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

15. In relation to the Government's Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan:

- a. How much funding has been allocated in 2011/2012 for the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan and how will this funding be used?
- b. How many new teachers will be employed in 2012 as part of the Literacy and Numeracy Plan?
- c. Will all 900 new teachers be in place at the beginning of the school year in 2015?
- d. How will you determine where the teachers will be allocated?
- e. How many of the promised 900 additional literacy and numeracy teachers will be allocated to non-government schools and how will you determine which schools receive additional support?
- f. Will the funding provided to non-government schools under the Literacy and Numeracy plan be in addition to the funding the Government already provides to the non-government sector?

ANSWER

- a. The NSW Government is investing \$261 million under the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan to support students who are most at risk of not reaching minimum standards in literacy and numeracy. The final allocation of funding for the 2011/2012 financial year is yet to be determined.
- b. The Ministerial Advisory Group on Literacy and Numeracy, chaired by Dr Ken Boston, is yet to provide advice to the Minister. This advice will include its recommended use of available resources for 2012.
- c. The NSW Government is confident that the 900 full time equivalent (FTE) teaching positions will be fully utilised by the beginning of the 2015 school year.
- d. The Ministerial Advisory Group will advise the Minister as to the best ways to allocate the available resources to communities across New South Wales.
- e. The number of non-government schools that will receive additional support is yet to be determined. These resources will be allocated to best meet the needs of students in the early years of schooling who are most at risk of not achieving minimum standards in literacy and numeracy.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

LITERACY AND NUMERACY ACTION PLAN(Continued)

- f. The resources available under the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan will be provided to non-government schools in addition to other funding the Government provides to the non-government sector.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

FEEES FOR GOVERNMENT PRE SCHOOLS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – FEES FOR GOVERNMENT

PRESCHOOLS– The Hon AmandaFazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

16. In relation to Government preschools:

- a. What modelling or research was done to assess the impact that charging fees for Government preschools will have on the number of students attending preschools, particularly students from low income families or indigenous families?
- b. Who will be exempted from paying fees and how many families will this affect?
- c. Why do the fees for Commonwealth Health Care Card holders range from \$0 to \$20?
- d. What is the cost of administering the new fee structure?
- e. How much revenue will this raise in 2012?
- f. Have you received any advice from the Department of Education and Communities that the number of students attending Government preschools will decline as a result of the introduction of fees?
- g. How do you intend to meet your target of increasing enrolments in early childhood education in the year before school entry from 81.1% to 91.8%?

ANSWER

- a. Modelling was based on the relative Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) value of the school. Fees will be more heavily subsidised in schools with a relatively low ICSEA value.
- b. All children attending preschool classes in our most disadvantaged communities will be fee exempt. In other locations, the school principal will be able to consider a fee exemption on either a short or long term basis. The number of families who will be exempt from fees is not known. This will depend on the circumstance of each family and any fee relief or exemptions provided.
- c. The fee structure is based on the ICSEA of schools – the lower the ICSEA, the lower the fees. 78 of 100 DEC preschools will have fee relief fees of between \$0 and \$10 per day. All children attending preschool classes in our most disadvantaged communities will be fee exempt.
- d. Schools will collect fees through their current administrative facilities.
- e. We do not know how much will be raised in 2012. It will depend on the circumstance of each family and any fee relief or exemptions provided.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

FEES FOR GOVERNMENT PRE SCHOOLS (Continued)

- f. I have been advised that many schools have not filled their enrolments for 2012. I would not expect all schools to have finalised their preschool enrolments for next year until school starts in 2012.
- g. The Government has established an independent Review of NSW Government Funding for Early Childhood Education. The Review has been tasked to develop recommendations to support all children in New South Wales having access to a quality early childhood education program in the 12 months prior to formal schooling.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

SCHOOL OPERATIONS/MERIT SELECTION/GREATER OWNERSHIP OVER MAINTENANCE AND PURCHASING

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – SCHOOL OPERATIONS/MERIT SELECTION/GREATER OWNERSHIP OVER MAINTENANCE AND PURCHASING –

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

17. In relation to school operations:
 - a. Will principals be given the ability to recruit all the teachers at their school through a local merit selection process?
 - b. Will schools continue to be funded according to the number of students that attend the school?
 - c. What changes have been put in place since March to allow principals to use local tradespeople and local businesses?
 - d. How much did the Department save over the last financial year from centralised procurement?
 - e. What is the estimated cost to NSW Education and Training of providing greater local ownership over maintenance and purchasing?
 - f. How many schools will benefit in the 11/12 financial year from the \$40m fund set up to upgrade public schools?
 - g. How much funding has been allocated in the 11/12 Budget for air cooling in schools?
 - h. How much funding will Sadleir Public School receive in 2011/12 for an electrical upgrade and when will the project be completed?

ANSWER

- a. The NSW Government is committed to giving greater control over school decision making to principals, staff and school communities. It is about local schools making local decisions, because they are best placed to know about the unique needs of a particular school and community. The Department of Education and Communities, through a formal, public consultation process, is seeking and considering feedback about how to achieve the best outcomes for students. One of the aspects being explored in this consultation relates to the authority schools should have to determine and select the right mix of staff.
- b. All NSW government schools are provided with annual global funding allocations from which they are expected to meet the cost of school operations. Global funding allocations are based on a combination of historical and formula based information, with consideration given to each school's student and staffing numbers and a range of special factors that cater for schools with unique circumstances.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

SCHOOL OPERATIONS/MERIT SELECTION/GREATER OWNERSHIP OVER MAINTENANCE AND PURCHASING (continued)

In addition, schools are provided with substantial resources in the form of staffing, physical facilities and technological infrastructure. Funding is also provided for targeted programs in areas such as technology, literacy and numeracy, vocational education and services that address equity considerations.

- c. In order to ensure that local tradespeople can have an opportunity to undertake work for local schools the Department introduced the 'local contractor initiative' as part of the new maintenance contracts. This allows school principals to nominate local tradespeople to be engaged by the school's maintenance contractor to deliver maintenance services.

The Department is also working to implement Local Schools, Local Decisions through the creation of regionally based service delivery contracts. The Department has incorporated localisation as a primary objective of the Procurement Solutions Business Plan for 2011-2014.

Currently this innovation includes Back to School contracts, providing local stationers with the opportunity to supply their local schools and the Household Electrical and Whitegoods Accreditation Panel, where local retailers can apply to supply their local school's community with these goods.

The Department is also actively working on the development of regional electronic catalogues to assist schools to identify local suppliers and give them more choice in their purchases.

Under the \$40m Public School Upgrade Fund, schools will be able to engage local contractors.

- d. The total saved over the last financial year from centralised procurement was \$88,179,720.
- e. A detailed statistical response to this question would involve collection and collation of information from each school. This would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from the core responsibilities of the Department that cannot be justified.
- f. A determination on the number of schools to be included in the \$40m Public Schools Upgrade Fund in the 2011/12 financial year cannot be made until after the application process for schools closes in November.
- g. There is no specific budget dedicated to air cooling, although funding from programs such as the Public Schools Upgrade Fund may be used for this purpose.

- h. \$200,000 has been allocated to Sadleir Public School in 2011/12 for an electrical upgrade. The project is expected to be completed by June 2012.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

DEMOUNTABLE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM GYMNASIUMS AND HALLS PROGRAM

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – DEMOUNTABLE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM/GYMNASIUMS AND HALLS PROGRAM – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

18. In relation to capital funding:

- a. How many demountable buildings will the \$1.18m statewide Demountable Replacement Program replace/refurbish and how many demountables will still need to be replaced/refurbished after this funding has been spent?
- b. How many schools will miss out on Halls and Gyms this year because the funding for the statewide Gymnasiums and Halls Program has been reduced by more than 60% in this Budget?
- c. Why has funding for the Connected Classrooms Program been reduced by nearly 60% in this year's budget?

ANSWER

- a. Funding for the Demountable Replacement Program in the 2011/12 State Budget is included to facilitate the completion of 2 Major Capital Works projects and will replace 6 demountable buildings
- b. The state wide Halls and Gyms Program was a program initiated by the in 2006/2007. The 2011/12 Budget allocation will finalise a project at 1 school.
- c. The Connected Classrooms program is a \$158 million investment over 4 years that commenced rollout in 2008. As the program has essentially been implemented, the funding announced in the 2011/12 State Budget represents appropriate funding to complete the program.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EQUITY PROGRAM/ ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM – 2011/12 BUDGET

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EQUITY PROGRAM/ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM – 2011/12 BUDGET –

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

19. In relation to special education and equity programs:

- a. On 15 June 2011, you advised Parliament of the pressures on the Education Budget, including that “there will be a \$90m increase over the next 4 years for special education”:
- b. Will the Government provide the additional funding to address this growth in demand over the next 4 years, and
- c. How much additional funding has been provided in the 2011/12 Budget for students with a disability?
- d. How much funding has been allocated in 2011/12 for the Assisted School Travel Program and are there any changes planned for the program?
- e. How much funding is allocated in the 2011/12 Budget for the Priority Action Schools Program and the Priority Schools Funding Program and will you rule out any reduction in funding to these programs?

ANSWER

- a. b.
- & c. The NSW Government has allocated \$1.18 billion for special education, including students with disability, in the 2011/12 financial year, an increase of \$30 million from the last financial year. This is the largest ever special education budget.
- d. The funding allocation for the Assisted School Travel Program in the 2011/12 financial year is \$80.142 million. There are no plans to change the scope of the Program.
- e. Funding of more than \$21.5 million and an additional 280 teaching positions within the Priority Schools Funding Program is provided to 581 identified schools supporting approximately 148,000 students from the most disadvantaged communities in the State.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

**SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EQUITY PROGRAM/
ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM – 2011/12 BUDGET (continued)**

In 2011/12, a further \$22.7 million is also available for the Priority Action Schools Program. This funding supports 101 school communities on the Priority Schools list with the greatest needs.

**Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education**

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

TAFE AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – TAFE AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

20. In relation to TAFE and vocational education:

- a. For the 2010/11 year how many industry qualified TAFE staff provided vocational education in schools?
- b. What discussions have you had with the Department of Premier and Cabinet in relation to reforms that could require TAFE to further compete with private providers for funding for the delivery of courses?
- c. How many TAFE teachers are on casual contracts?
- d. How many TAFE teachers are on casual contracts but teaching full-time equivalent hours?
- e. How many casual TAFE teachers did the Government offer redundancy to in July and how much time did you give the teachers to make their decision whether to accept the Government's offer?
- f. Why are 100 hours being cut from course curriculums at West Wollongong TAFE?
- g. Will you refund students who have paid for a TAFE course when multiple hours of class time are cut after enrolment, such as West Wollongong TAFE?
- h. What analysis does TAFE undertake before offering certain courses in response to the skills needs of the NSW economy?
- i. What is the Government doing to attract students to vocational courses that will assist to alleviate the skills shortage currently experienced in NSW?

ANSWER

- a. Nil. TAFE NSW does not deliver vocational education and training in Schools.
- b. The Department of Education and Communities has ongoing discussions with the Department of Premier and Cabinet in relation to skills reform. In particular, the August 2011 Council of Australian Governments meeting, all States and Territories agreed to principles of reform for the vocational education and training system, designed to support a more productive workforce and to give people the skills they need to participate in work.
- c. As at June 2011, there were 8,173 casual teachers in TAFE.
- d. As at June 2011, there were 8,173 casual teachers in TAFE. As casual teachers work varying hours and in some cases do so at a number of TAFE locations this data is unable to be provided.
- e. No casual TAFE teachers were offered redundancy in July 2011.
- f. No courses at West Wollongong TAFE have been cut by 100 hours.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

TAFE AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS (continued)

- g. There has been no reduction to courses at West Wollongong. A refund of the TAFE NSW fee is available if a course has been cancelled.
- h. TAFE NSW undertakes evidence based research to establish projections of industry demand for training and employment. This informs the delivery of training to address emerging skills needs, meet industry demand for skills and address individual people's training requirements in every region of New South Wales. As a result, TAFE NSW delivers training that meets local, regional and State demand for skills linked to employment.
- i. The NSW Government is attracting students to vocational courses through industry based learning for school students, promoting apprenticeships and traineeships and providing funded training for jobseekers, retrenched workers and workers wanting to upskill to meet employers needs.

TAFE NSW undertakes analysis on employment projections and consults with industry to deliver training that addresses skills needs and meets industry demand for skills in every region of NSW. TAFE NSW attracts students to its vocational courses through a range of marketing strategies including state-wide advertising, careers counselling, a central website with information about courses and training services and the use of social media.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CURRICULUM/ NSW BUSINESS CHAMBER'S REVIEW OF THE HSC

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CURRICULUM/NSW BUSINESS CHAMBER'S REVIEW OF THE HSC –

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

21. In relation to the Board of Studies NSW:
 - a. What support will be provided to schools to implement the National Curriculum?
 - b. Do you support the NSW Business Chamber's call for a review of the Higher School Certificate?
 - c. Given figures show the Hunter is lagging behind the State average in most HSC subjects, what action is being taken to address this?
General Purpose Standing Committee No 1 – Budget Estimates 2006-2007.
 - d. Is it correct that nearly a quarter of students do not take Maths in the HSC?
 - e. What action are you taking to address the shortage of Maths teachers?

ANSWER

- a. The Board of Studies NSW is presenting the Australian curriculum through NSW syllabuses. These syllabuses support NSW teachers by providing clarity and detail about the expected learning for all students. The Board of Studies will develop support material to accompany its syllabuses. New South Wales teachers have free access to these support materials.

The support materials will include models for planning and programming and sample units of work that will show how syllabus requirements translate into meaningful learning experiences for students. A range of assessment strategies will also be provided and related student work samples included on the Board of Studies' Assessment Resource Centre (ARC).

- b. The Board of Studies had already initiated discussions with the Business Chamber to clarify the exact nature of their concern as many of their comments appeared to be more relevant to the School Certificate and to related issues of reporting school achievement. These issues will be addressed through the new credential being developed to replace the School Certificate.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CURRICULUM/ NSW BUSINESS CHAMBER'S REVIEW OF THE HSC (Continued)

The Board of Studies NSW will continue to work with the NSW Business Chamber as part of ongoing consultation processes to analyse the concerns expressed and to identify the best solutions.

The HSC is a dynamic credential that has the flexibility to meet the needs of the full range of students, not just those who proceed to university.

- c. The Department of Education and Communities' Hunter Central Coast Region is committed to improving the performance of students in the Higher School Certificate by:
- Supporting schools in developing Higher School Certificate monitoring systems
 - Supporting networks of teachers to provide targeted professional learning
 - Providing a range of pathways and alternative learning options, School Developed Vocational Education, and TAFE delivered Vocational Education
 - Working in partnership with Newcastle University to investigate and improve student performance in Mathematics.
- d. No. 86% of the 65,212 students awarded a Higher School Certificate in 2010 undertook Mathematics within their HSC program. Corresponding official statistics relating to the 2011 Higher School Certificate are not yet finalised.
- e. Through its workforce planning projects, the Department of Education and Communities has identified that Mathematics is an area of workforce demand and has provided this advice to Deans of Education in NSW and ACT universities to inform their planning for teacher education courses.

In addition, to address the shortfall of Mathematics teachers, the Department implements a range of initiatives such as teacher education scholarships and retraining programs and the active promotion of teaching as a career through its teach.NSW campaign.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN 2011/12

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN 2011/12– The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

22. How much funding is provided for teacher professional development in 2011/12 and how much of this funding is provided directly to schools?

ANSWER

In 2011/2012 \$36 million will be distributed to the schools and regions for teacher professional learning.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

STANDING COUNCIL ON SCHOOL EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – STANDING COUNCIL ON SCHOOL EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

QUESTION

23. What initiatives is the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood working on to close the divide between rural and urban students?

ANSWER

At the April 2011 meeting of the Ministerial Council on Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs I achieved agreement between all Education Ministers that closing the education divide between rural and urban students in Australia should be a key priority of the new Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood.

The October meeting of the Ministerial Council was preceded by a Ministerial Forum on Rural and Remote Education. I delivered a presentation detailing current trends in education and early childhood development in rural and remote locations, drawing on analysis of national data, from early childhood development through to post-school destinations. Ministers took the opportunity to exchange information about local level rural and remote initiatives.

At the October meeting of the Ministerial Council, Ministers agreed that New South Wales would lead further work on the action required to address the needs of rural and regional communities.

I am proposing that the new Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood include an Action Plan to close the gap between rural and urban students as part of its Work Plan.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

DUBBO SECONDARY COLLEGE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – DUBBO SECONDARY COLLEGE –

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

24. What consultation did you undertake and who did you meet with prior to announcing the changes to Dubbo Secondary College in June?

ANSWER

Prior to announcing my decision regarding Dubbo College, I undertook extensive consultation. I met with the Regional Director's Steering Committee, which consists of representatives of:

- the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group
- Parents and Citizens' Associations
- parents
- students
- the Public Service Association
- teaching staff.

I also met with the College Principals. I visited all 3 campuses and spoke to teachers, parents and children.

Prior to the election, I met with at least 20–25 teachers on 2 separate occasions about the College and with approximately 6 of the teachers in the Special Education Unit from the Senior Campus.

I also spoke with the Principals of Menindee Central School, Denison College, Bathurst, Wellington High School and Principals from primary schools in the area.

I spoke with the NSW Teachers Federation Executive on at least 20 separate occasions and met with NSW Teachers Federation representatives both in Dubbo and in Griffith.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

FUNDING – HOSTELS IN BROKEN HILL AND DUBBO

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – FUNDING – HOSTELS IN BROKEN HILL AND DUBBO – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

25. Will you agree to provide additional funding to the hostels in Broken Hill and Dubbo before the start of the 2012 school year so they can continue to provide accommodation to students?

ANSWER

No.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

LEARNING MANAGEMENT BUSINESS REFORM PROGRAM

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – LEARNING MANAGEMENT BUSINESS REFORM PROGRAM – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

26. Is the implementation of the Learning Management Business Reform Program on track?

ANSWER

Yes.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

**ROLL OUT TO SCHOOLS –
LEARNING MANAGEMENT BUSINESS REFORM PROGRAM**

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – ROLL OUT TO SCHOOLS – LEARNING MANAGEMENT BUSINESS REFORM PROGRAM – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

27. When will the Learning Management Business Reform Program be rolled out to schools and what impact will this have on school office staff?

ANSWER

The Learning Management Business Reform Program is scheduled to commence roll out in 2012.

The new integrated solution will provide school staff with the tools to gather a range of information allowing local decision making that is accurate and well informed. School office staff will be trained to operate and utilise the new systems.

**Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education**

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

OUT OF HOME CARE – STUDENT INDIVIDUALISED LEARNING PLANS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – OUT OF HOME CARE – STUDENT INDIVIDUALISED LEARNING PLANS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

28. Do all students in out of home care have individualised learning plans?

ANSWER

This information is not collected centrally.

Since July 2010, all government schools are required to develop individual education plans for school aged children and young people in out of home care.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

FUNDING TO ADDRESS BULLYING – 2011/12 BUDGET

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – FUNDING TO ADDRESS BULLYING

2011/12 BUDGET – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

29. How much funding to address bullying is estimated in the 2011/12 budget and what new initiatives will be introduced?

ANSWER

It is not possible to calculate funding specifically targeted to address bullying.

The Department of Education and Communities addresses bullying in schools through a wide range of policies, practices, specialist teaching programs and initiatives. It employs specialist staff at school, region and state level to support the welfare and wellbeing of students across a range of areas including bullying. These officers support state wide and local initiatives in primary and secondary schools and respond to requests from individual schools for support. It is not possible to estimate the percentage of the officers' time specifically spent on preventing and addressing bullying.

Schools plan strategies for their local circumstances. The time each school allocates to preventing bullying would vary and therefore an estimate cannot be made of how much funding has been spent or allocated in this area.

The Department is supporting schools and their communities to work together to develop strategies to prevent and respond to bullying. New initiatives include:

- implementation documents to support the Bullying: Preventing and Responding to Student Bullying in Schools Policy
- a number of information brochures on bullying, including cyber bullying, to provide clear advice and support to school staff
- a trial in a small number of pilot schools of a dedicated email address for the purpose of reporting bullying.
- a guide for parents on technology and cyber bullying to help parents understand the technology and provide tips on staying safe online.
- Online resources to teach students about keeping safe online, privacy and the ethical use of technology.

Under the *Supporting Students* plan, the NSW Government has committed to trialling 50 new student support positions in NSW schools. The first 10 student support officers commenced in Term 3, 2011.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

FUNDING TO ADDRESS BULLYING – 2011/12 BUDGET (Continued)

It is anticipated that these officers will have an understanding of the challenges faced by school children and a capacity to deliver anti-bullying programs. They will explore current directions and issues in bullying and develop effective strategies for intervention and support for students within departmental policies and procedures. The remaining 40 officers will be appointed during 2012.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

NON GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS INSPECTED BY THE OBOS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – NON GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS INSPECTED BY THE OBOS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

30. Why are you expecting a decrease in the number of non government schools inspected by the Board of Studies (from 150 to 132)?

ANSWER

Non-government schools are registered for renewable periods of up to 5 years. New schools and schools offering new years of schooling are registered for an initial period of 1 year.

Accordingly, the number of schools applying for renewal of registration, new schools or schools offering new years of schooling in any given year varies. As a consequence, the number of schools requiring inspection as a prerequisite for registration varies as well.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

PUBLIC SECTOR JOB CUTS – 2011/12 BUDGET

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – PUBLIC SECTOR JOB CUTS – 2011/12 BUDGET – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

31. How many of the 5,000 public sector job cuts flagged in the 2011/2012 Budget will be in Education and Training and what are the position titles, grades and locations of jobs that will go from Education and Training as a result?

ANSWER

31. The Department of Education and Communities regularly reshapes its structure to improve its efficiencies and more effectively deliver services, and will continue to do so during the 2011-2012 financial year. Over this financial year it is estimated that in addition to the voluntary redundancy offers made to date, the Department will make in the vicinity of 200 further offers of voluntary redundancy.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – PHONES - The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC
to ask the Minister for Education –

32. How many blackberries does DPC assign to your Ministerial staff and to whom have they been issued?
33. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
34. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
35. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
36. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
37. For each phone or device, how much was each bill from April to October?
38. How many have phones or devices have been lost in your office?
39. What is the cost of replacing those phones or devices?

ANSWER:

32. to 36. For all Ministerial Offices, there is a total of:

- a) i. Blackberries – 151
- b) ii. iPads – 19
- c) iii iPhones - 3

37. Ministerial Offices in the NSW Government from April 2011 to October 2011 spent a total of \$88,902. This compares with \$238,567 spent under the previous NSW Government from October 2010 to March 2011.

38-39. For all Ministerial Offices in the NSW Government, there has been one stolen phone, which cost \$577 (ex GST) to replace.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS –

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

40. How many media or public relations advisors are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
41. What is the forecast for 2011-12 for the number of media or public relations advisors to be employed and their total cost?

ANSWER

40. The Department of Education and Communities' Media Unit employs eight media liaison officers, including in regional areas.

The Office of the Board of Studies employs one staff member for media and public relations purposes.

The Institute of Teachers does not employ any media or public relations advisers.

41. Eight media liaison officers are forecast to work in the Department of Education and Communities' Media Unit, including in regional areas, during 2011-12. The total annual salaries for those officers is \$934,855, which includes the 2.5% NSW public sector pay rise for the current financial year.

The Office of the Board of Studies expects to employ one full-time equivalent staff member for media and publications purposes in 2011-12 with the total cost of employment estimated to be \$116,000.

The Institute of Teachers will not be appointing a media or public relations adviser in 2011-2012.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS - The Hon
Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

42. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in your ministerial office?

ANSWER:

42. One.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – OVERSEAS TRIPS - The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

43. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

44. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

ANSWER:

43-44. Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the relevant Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 'Release of Overseas Travel Information'.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – OFFICE COSTS - The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

Office Costs

45. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
46. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
47. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
48. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2011-12?
49. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April?
50. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
51. What is your office budget?
52. How many political advisors are in your office?
53. How many administration staff?
54. How many Department Liaison officers are assigned to your office?
55. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

ANSWER:

45-47 & 52-53. Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

48 & 51. Based on actual expenditure patterns, total forecast expenditures for all Ministerial offices are set out below:

O'Farrell Government YR 2011-12	
Minister	Estimate Expenditure (based on current expenditure patterns)

O'Farrell	\$4,900,000
Stoner	\$2,300,000
Skinner	\$1,900,000
Piccoli	\$1,800,000
Gallacher	\$1,600,000
Gay	\$1,500,000
Hazzard	\$1,300,000
Hartcher	\$1,500,000
Berejiklian	\$1,700,000
Souris	\$1,300,000
Baird	\$1,800,000
Pearce	\$1,800,000
Hodgkinson	\$1,400,000
Constance	\$1,300,000
Smith	\$1,800,000
Page	\$1,200,000
Goward	\$1,500,000
Roberts	\$1,300,000
Humphries	\$1,400,000
Parker	\$1,300,000
Dominello	\$1,200,000
Annesley	\$1,100,000
TOTAL	\$36,900,000

The estimated expenditure of \$36,900,000 in 2011/12 compares to \$47,046,453 spent by the former NSW Government from April 2010 to March 2011.

49-50.

Office Fitout/Renovations

Minister	Total Cost (\$ ex GST)
Minister Piccoli	2,657

Note: Information is sourced from contractor invoices. Also this table does not include electronic items purchased / replaced, such as televisions, digital radios, small appliances, whitegoods and cleaning costs.

54. 3.

55. Each Minister is provided with a Ministerial driver from the Department of Premier & Cabinet, with the Premier provided with three Ministerial drivers.

**Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education**

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – CABCHARGE - The Hon Amanda Fazio
MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

56. In terms of your ministerial office, how much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge since April?

ANSWER:

I am advised:

56. For all Ministerial offices, the cost of Cabcharge was \$38,806.38 over 6 months from April 2011 to September 2011.

This is compared with the cost of \$78,023.11 in the 6 months of the previous NSW Government from October 2010 to March 2011.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

RESTRUCTURE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – RESTRUCTURE – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

57. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
58. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
59. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
60. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered as a result of that restructure?

ANSWER

57 & 58. The Department of Education and Communities is continually reshaping its structures to improve efficiency and to more effectively deliver services. Organisational change processes are currently being implemented in a number of areas, including Corporate Finance, Information Technology Directorate, the Illawarra Institute of TAFE and the Hunter Institute of TAFE. Each of these change processes will result in cost savings through improved service delivery models.

The Institute of Teachers is not undergoing a restructure. The Institute is a non-budget dependent agency and is funded by teacher accreditation fees.

The Office of the Board of Studies is not undergoing a restructure at present.

59. None.
60. Not known at this time.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

AGENCY COSTS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – AGENCY COSTS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

61. What is your agency's catering budget?
62. Since April, has the agency changed its branding?
63. How much was spent on rebranding the agency?
64. How much has been spent on stationery?

ANSWER

61. The Department of Education and Communities does not have a specific catering budget allocation. Catering costs are part of the other operating expenses budget.
62. The agency changed its branding from the Department of Education and Training to the Department of Education and Communities consistent with the *Public Sector Employment and Management (Departments) Order 2011*. This Administrative Order commenced on 4 April 2011.
63. The cost of design services related to the rebrand of the Department of Education and Communities is \$22,751.
64. Electronic stationery templates have been created and placed on the Department intranet for staff to print on demand. All stocks of existing letterhead stationery continue to be used and are only replaced when stocks have been exhausted.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

CORRESPONDENCE

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – CORRESPONDENCE – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

65. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your agency?
66. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

ANSWER

65-66. The Department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence is approximately 21 days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence. Correspondence is frequently completed well within this time frame.

The average turnaround time for state office education-related correspondence varies according to the nature of the correspondence.

To account for every individual school and TAFE college would be an unnecessary diversion of government resources.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

PAYING BILLS ON TIME

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – PAYING BILLS ON TIME – The Hon
Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

67. Since April, on how many occasions has the agency not paid a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
68. How many bills have been outstanding for longer than that period?

ANSWER

The Department of Education and Communities publishes information on payment of accounts in its Annual Report. The Department's 2011 Annual Report will be published in May 2012.

New South Wales government schools presently account for payments on a cash basis. The requested information is not available for payments made directly to suppliers by NSW government schools.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education –

In relation to Grants to Non-Government Organisations:

69. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations? If yes,
- a. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
 - b. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation, including goods and services tax?
 - c. On what date was the funding advanced?
 - d. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
 - e. Was any funding withheld or returned?
 - f. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
70. What is the indexation rate applied to non recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?

ANSWER

69. The Department of Education and Communities publishes information on funds granted to non-government organisations in its Annual Report. The Department's 2011 Annual Report will be published in May 2012.
70. There is no indexation applied to non-recurrent grant funds as applications are assessed annually on a case-by-case basis.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

QUESTION ON NOTICE

FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AUDITS, TASKFORCES AND REVIEWS

QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES – EDUCATION – FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AUDITS, TASKFORCES AND REVIEWS – The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC to ask the Minister for Education -

71. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews. If so:
- a. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - b. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - c. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review publicly advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
 - d. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - e. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - f. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

ANSWER

71. I refer to the answer to the Question on Notice from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney – LC 0327—Premier—FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AUDITS, TASKFORCES AND REVIEWS.

Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education