

Question on Notice

No. 450

Asked on 6 June 2013

Mrs Miller asked the Minister for Education, Training and Employment (MR LANGBROEK) –

QUESTION:

With reference the National Plan for School Improvement and the provision of information to the Federal Government—

Will the Minister release the baseline funding for all state schools in Queensland for the 2014 school year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question.

I have been advised by my Department that:

The Department does not release projected funding information for individual state schools. School budgeting is done using the Department's needs-based staffing and resourcing models. As such, I am unable to provide funding estimates for individual state schools for the 2014 school year.

To enable the fairest and most accurate allocation of public money, state school resourcing for the year is not finalised until enrolment figures are collected at the start of each school year. School resource allocations are based on actual enrolment numbers and the real circumstances of students rather than assumptions.

The Department does compile each year an estimated dollar amount of total resources for each school for publication on the *My School* website. These dollar amounts are prepared on a historical basis and make a number of assumptions to provide consistency between states and territories, with the latest published data being for 2011. Queensland's provision of school resourcing information to the Federal Government complies with requirements under the National Education Agreement and as negotiated through the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood.

It may be the Member was referring to comments made by Prime Minister Julia Gillard in a letter to Premier Campbell Newman on 3 June 2013 claiming that "you have not authorised your officials to give accurate information about how you will fund schools next year and beyond".

While the Queensland Government considers the Federal Government's arbitrary deadline of 30 June 2013 to conclude school funding negotiations for 2014 extremely difficult to achieve, be assured that we will continue to work for the best possible outcome for Queensland. Until these negotiations are concluded we cannot confirm details regarding the implications for future funding publication arrangements.