

Question on Notice

No. 515

Asked on 7 August 2013

Mr Pucci asked the Minister for Education, Training and Employment (Mr Langbroek) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline the measures the government has in place to up-skill teachers through professional development of teachers in the Logan Electorate?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question.

The Department of Education, Training and Employment is strongly committed to investing in its teachers.

We acknowledge that there are many hard working teachers in Queensland schools and it is what they do, day in, day out, that has the power to positively impact on a student's performance.

Great teachers = Great results is just one way in which my Department is supporting teachers in the Logan Electorate and across Queensland.

This important initiative builds on the strengths of existing school funding models and extends the Queensland Government's reform agenda, by focusing on the most important piece of the education system — the teacher.

Great teachers = Great results is the Government's five-year, \$537 million action plan for all Queensland schools - strengthening school flexibility to locally manage teacher workload and resourcing and supporting schools to locally identify targeted professional development needs relevant to local school needs.

We know from research that student outcomes are closely linked to the quality of the instruction they receive in the classroom. This plan features 15 actions aimed at lifting standards of teaching and giving schools more flexibility including:

- supporting teachers with mentoring, training and resources;
- rewarding outstanding performers with career opportunities, scholarships and bonuses;
- allowing each school to have more say in how they operate on a day to day basis;
- fast-tracking the careers of high performing teachers; and
- creating new Master Teacher positions to ensure quality teachers are working where they are needed most.

Great teachers = Great results builds upon a strong foundation of professional development for teachers already underway in schools in the Logan Electorate.

Logan teachers currently choose from a range of online courses and materials, developed by my Department, that enable staff to meet their individual learning needs and with the flexibility of 24/7 access. Courses include the highly regarded: *Spotlight on Reading - an approach to using data to impact classroom teaching* and the *Rejuvenating Writing* EdStudio.

- Local Logan workshops provide teachers with the opportunity to come together to share best practice. For example, the
 - Geography workshop for teachers held on 28 August;
 - Curriculum Leaders Workshop for Heads of Curriculum held on 22 August;
 - Twilight Series underway on Science Inquiry Skills;
 - Maths Expo for teachers of Years 6-12 on December 10, focussing on innovative teaching and learning practices in Maths classrooms.

Logan schools have a strong focus on peer coaching, continuous improvement of teacher practice and a relentless focus on student outcomes that prepare students for future study and employment.

I want to congratulate our hard working teachers and my Department looks forward to an even stronger investment in its teachers.