

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 3**

**Asked on 11 February 2014**

**Mrs Miller** asked the Minister for Education, Training and Employment (Mr Langbroek) –

**QUESTION:**

Will the Minister guarantee that all students at Springfield Central State High School who are eligible for a laptop computer will receive one, either reallocating laptops not being used at some high schools, or by providing additional funding to the school, as the school has grown at an extraordinary high rate in a very short time frame?

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for her question.

I have been advised by my Department that the National Secondary Schools Computer Fund (NSSCF) was a joint initiative of the Australian and Queensland Governments to support Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for students in Years 9 to 12. This program ran from 2009 until the completion of the 2012-13 financial year. As such, funding under this initiative has concluded.

Under this program 110,111 devices were distributed to Queensland state schools to assist schools reach a computer to student ratio of 1-to-1 for students in Years 9 to 12. Additional funds were allocated to schools for the maintenance and support of these devices.

Some schools, using community consultation and local decision making, chose to implement funding arrangements with parental support to provide laptops to students in Year 8.

All Queensland state schools receive an annual School ICT Supplementary Grant based on current enrolments. This grant is provided to support and complement school expenditure on the integration of ICT into teaching and learning practice. Each year schools that report high levels of increased enrolments also receive an additional grant payment. Due to the significant growth within the first two years of opening, Springfield Central State High School (SHS) received additional grant payments.

Springfield Central SHS commenced operation in 2011 for Years 8 and 9 and each year has gained a cohort as the year levels progress. The school population increased further in 2013 with the integration of Year 7 students.

The introduction of the 1-to-1 laptop program at Springfield Central SHS has enabled the integration of more technology based teaching throughout the curriculum. However, this forms but one of the many methods of curriculum delivery. The school continues to utilise paper based textbooks in most subjects, and as part of the Flying Start project, Springfield Central SHS received additional funding for 28 devices to achieve a 1-to-3 computer to student ratio for Year 7 students in the 2013-14 financial year.

The school principal is committed to ensuring that no student is disadvantaged due to the number of laptops provided under the NSSCF. Over the course of the NSSCF program based on the numbers of eligible students, the school received 301 computers. Springfield Central SHS also received additional funding for on-costs and further ICT support (3G, filtering, Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, Antivirus protection) for a total value of \$516,401.

The Regional Technology Manager, Metropolitan Region, will continue to work toward the re-distribution of any school laptops which are deemed to be surplus to requirements in schools in the Metropolitan Region.