

Question on Notice

No. 1046

Asked on 15 October 2015

MR MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR TOURISM, MAJOR EVENTS, SMALL BUSINESS AND THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES (HON K JONES)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how many principals, heads of department and heads of special education services positions in Gregory are currently filled in an acting capacity?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question.

The Department of Education is actively looking at key workforce issues through the State Schools Transformational Human Resources Board.

I established and chair this board to provide strategic oversight of the state schools workforce strategy and to support our principals, teachers and school staff to achieve better outcomes for students.

The Board includes all education stakeholders and will meet regularly.

The department's workforce is large and diverse and mobility is a key part of the Department's strategy to support professional development, career progression and filling short, medium and long term vacancies.

The Department is committed to maximising permanency within its workforce and works with regions and schools to fill vacancies as quickly as practicable.

Temporary vacancies can occur as a result of resignation, retirement, leave or staff taking opportunities to act in other roles.

In Gregory, the Department of Education and Training currently employs:

- 12 acting school principals;
- 4 acting heads of department; and
- 8 acting heads of special education services.

I am advised that all current acting principals, heads of departments, and heads of special education services in Gregory hold a permanent role within the Department, either at the school of the acting placement or elsewhere.

Many of these acting placements were implemented to provide short-term coverage and minimise disruption during the existing school year.

The recruitment to at least five permanent principal positions has been completed, or is underway for the 2016 year.