

Question on Notice
No. 636
Asked on 25 May 2021

MR L MILLAR ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to vacancies for teaching staff in the Gregory electorate still advertised on the Smart Jobs website, and with first semester ending on 25 June 2021—

Will the Minister advise when the following positions are likely to be filled (a) Year 11 and 12 maths teacher and P-12 Maths and Science teacher for Winton State School, (b) Inclusion Teacher for Emerald State High School, (c) Primary Teacher for Urandangi State School, (d) Maths and Science Teacher for Blackwater State High School, (e) District Relieving Teacher for Blackwater cluster and (f) Deputy Principal for Denison State School and Principal for Isisford State School?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government continues to invest in its teaching workforce and implements a number of initiatives to attract and retain high quality teachers.

As part of the commitments the Government took to the last election, we are employing 6190 new teachers over the next four years. This includes at least 1240 new teachers in 2021–22, in addition to the 1131 new teachers already employed last year.

Over the next three years, our \$20 million Turn to Teaching paid internship program will provide 300 aspiring teachers with financial support, mentoring and paid internship employment to complete their teaching qualification and take up a guaranteed permanent teaching position in a Queensland state school.

These commitments are on top of existing workforce planning and recruitment strategies designed to ensure the ongoing supply of quality teachers, including:

- the September 2020 launch of a digital and televised digital ad campaign called ‘There’s never been a better time to teach in Queensland.’;
- \$81.3 million STEM education program to build teacher capability and invest in resources to boost STEM education in primary schools. The annual STEM teacher symposium is a two-day professional learning opportunity for teachers to learn from the experts about translating research into practice;
- Teach Rural Career Fair: regular expos in rural locations, giving pre-service and graduate teachers the chance to talk to school leaders and recruiters about a career;
- Centres for Learning and Wellbeing: four centres in Roma, Mt Isa, Emerald and Atherton to support staff in any stage of their career through mentoring and professional development;
- Rural and Remote Teacher Experience Program: six-week professional experience placement;
- subsidies for teachers in rural and remote locations including relocation assistance and subsidised housing;

- scholarships and grants: Aspiring Teacher grant, Peter Doherty grant, Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarship;
- Future Teacher Program: encouraging senior students to consider a teaching career by fast tracking their university studies while still at school; and
- Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers classifications: keeping great teachers in the classroom.

In relation to the specific vacancies referred to, it has been confirmed with each school listed above that each of the advertised vacancies has backfill arrangements where appropriate while recruitment processes are completed.