

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

**Outcome**            1

**DEEWR Question No. EW1111\_09**

Senator Hanson-Young asked on 25 February 2009, EEW Hansard page 37

**Question**

*Child Care Industry Taskforce Questions on ABC Learning*

"Senator HANSON-YOUNG—I will leave it there. Could you explain the extent of the connections between the directors of ABC Learning, Australian Education Trust and other property owners to whom ABC centres pay rent?

Mr Manthorpe—I could not do that in detail here, but I am happy to take it on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG—But you do have details of those connections?

Mr Manthorpe—Well, to the extent I have access to company searches and things of that kind. So I am happy to take the question on notice, Senator."

**Answer**

According to the Australian Education Trust's most recent Annual Report (2008) available on their website, "The Australian Education Trust (the "Trust") is a managed investment scheme that is registered under the Corporations Act 2001. Austock Property Management Limited (the "Responsible Entity") was appointed the responsible entity of the Trust on 17 December 2004. ... The business of the Trust is managed under the direction of the Board of Directors of the Responsible Entity (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") with management of day to day operations (including risk management) delegated to the Chief Executive Officer. The Board meets on a regular basis, and is required to discuss pertinent business developments and issues and review the operations and performance of the Trust.

This report identifies Austock's Board of Directors as at 13 March 2009 as:

Mr Michael Edward McFarlane, Mr Michael Francis Johnstone, Mr Victor David Cottren,  
Mr Nicholas James Anagnostou

According to Orchard Funds Management's website, as at 13 March 2009 their Board of Director's are:

Mr Charles Macek, Mr David Hinde, Mr Chris Thiris, Mr David Spruell, Mr Greg McMahon,  
Mr Robert Appleby,

ABC also pays rent to a significant number of small independent companies.

ABC Learning's Board of Directors are:

Mr David Ryan AO, The Hon Lawrence Anthony, Mr Matthew Horton.