

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0992_10

Senator Fielding asked on 11/02/2010, Hansard page 22.

Question

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS

Senator FIELDING—Are you aware of Mildura Primary School, Chaffey Secondary College, and Mildura West Primary School in Mildura, Victoria, performing well below the national average? I assume you know your figures. They are in the system. I will not test you on how many you know, but I assume - you can take my word for it: they are very low.

Dr Bruniges—Out of the 10,000, I am not aware of those particular schools, but—
Senator FIELDING—I can assure you they are very low, under-performing schools. Can you tell me how much federal funding is directed to those schools?

Dr Bruniges—I do not have that with me but I am happy to take that on notice.

Ms Paul—We can take it from the record, but would you mind just mentioning the school names again, please?

Senator FIELDING—Yes, Mildura Primary School, Chaffey Secondary College, Mildura West Primary School, all around the Mildura, Victoria area. And they are well below the national average, as far as—

Ms Paul—So they are state government schools, by the sound of it, all of those?

Senator FIELDING—Yes.

Ms Paul—Okay. Okay. So to get the funding information, we would need to ask the state government how they are directing funding towards those schools, and we are happy to do that. I just wanted to understand which sector they were in.

Senator FIELDING—Do you have that number—not here, but do you have the number?

Ms Paul—For the finances?

Senator FIELDING—Yes.

Ms Paul—That is the piece which is still being worked on, and my colleagues can describe that. You might have seen some of the public comment about this. Finances for each school will be on the website, but not until later this year.

Senator FIELDING—So if you could take that one on notice and ask them what it is, I would appreciate that. Obviously, you do not have it here.

Ms Paul—Yes, that is what we would need to do at the moment.

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Senator FIELDING—I will come back to the answer to that one in a second. I will tie it to another area, if I can. Bendigo is another area that has a high proportion of schools performing well below the national average: Bendigo Primary School, Bendigo North Primary, Bendigo South East 7-10 Secondary College, California Gully Primary School, California Gully, Comet Hill Primary School and Weeroona College. They are all struggling. You are still going to give funding. How are you going to tie it to performance? I do not get that feeling. In the past, you just dished out the money, and I do not think—

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Senator FIELDING—Warrnambool has similar problems: BrauerSecondaryCollege, WarrnamboolCollege, WarrnamboolCollege, WarrnamboolEastPrimary School, WarrnamboolWestPrimary School—not performing well. I will be interested to know how much federal funding has been going to all those schools I have raised this morning.

Ms Paul—Sure.

Answer

Australian Government funding for government schools is delivered through the intergovernmental funding framework under a National Education Agreement (NEA) with the states and territories. The funding framework provides flexibility for states and territories to allocate Commonwealth funding to areas which they believe will produce the best outcomes for students.

The Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has advised that it distributes the vast majority of Government funding to schools through the Student Resource Package (SRP).

The SRP, which totals \$4.4 billion, is provided as an annual budget to Victorian Government schools and is sourced from both State and Commonwealth funds. The SRP funding represents approximately 90 percent of all funding distributed to schools and the state and federal funding distributed is not differentiated.

The schools listed in total receive approximately \$52 million annually in SRP funding, which equates to approximately \$4 million per school. The attachment identifies additional Commonwealth funding for each of these schools.

MILDURAPRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Building refurbishment	\$170 900
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Library	\$5 480 000
Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)	N/A	\$1 590
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
National Partnership - LowSocio-EconomicStatusSchool Communities	N/A	\$62 500
National Partnership –Primary Mathematics Specialists	N/A	\$58 915

CHAFFEYSECONDARYCOLLEGE

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Building refurbishment	\$202 000
NationalSecondary School Computer Fund	School was successful in their application for 112 computers.	Funding is provided to the State Education Authority and they manage the implementation.
NationalSchool Chaplaincy Program	N/A	\$20 000
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program	N/A	\$750
National Partnership - LowSocio-EconomicStatusSchool Communities	N/A	\$99 747

MILDURAWESTPRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - National School Pride	Building refurbishment	\$183 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Multi purpose hall	\$3 million
Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)	N/A	\$390
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program	N/A	\$5 000
National Partnership – Literacy and Numeracy	N/A	\$56 500
National Partnership – Primary Mathematics specialists	N/A	\$58 915

BENDIGOPRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Building refurbishment	\$75 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Classroom refurbishments	\$785 000
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000

BENDIGONORTHPRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Maintenance	\$75 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Classroom refurbishments	\$3 million
NationalSchool Chaplaincy Program	N/A	\$20 000
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000

BENDIGO SOUTH EAST 7-10 SECONDARYCOLLEGE

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Sporting ground refurbishment	\$200 000
NationalSecondary School Computer Fund	School was successful in their application for 274 computers.	Funding is provided to the State Education Authority and they manage the implementation.
Trade Training Centres	School was one of eight cluster schools in a cross-sectoral application submitted by BendigoSeniorSecondaryCollege.	This application was successful for funding of up to \$10 000 227.
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000

CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - National School Pride	Building refurbishment	\$125 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Library	\$2 million
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000

COMETHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - National School Pride	Information and communication technology upgrade	\$50 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	New classrooms	\$4 million
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000

WEERONA COLLEGE, BENDIGO

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - National School Pride	Covered outdoor learning area	\$200 000
National Secondary School Computer Fund	School was successful in their application for 119 computers.	Funding is provided to the State Education Authority and they manage the implementation.
Trade Training Centres	School was one of eight cluster schools in a cross-sectoral application submitted by Bendigo Senior Secondary College.	This application was successful for funding of up to \$10 000 227.
National School Chaplaincy Program	N/A	\$20 000
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program	N/A	\$3 100
National Partnership – Literacy and Numeracy	N/A	\$123 635

BRAUERSECONDARYCOLLEGE

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Building refurbishments	\$200 000
NationalSecondary School Computer Fund	School was successful in their application for 296 computers.	Funding is provided to the State Education Authority and they manage the implementation.
Science and Technology Education Leveraging Relevance (STELR) Project Stage One	School has 10 classes participating and this entitles them to 3 sets of the lab kits each valued at more than \$7 000.	N/A
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program	N/A	\$13 539.31

WARRNAMBOOLCOLLEGE

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Covered outdoor learning area	\$200 000
BER - Science and Language Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools	Science/Language Centre	\$1 970 000
NationalSecondary School Computer Fund	School was successful in their application for 135 computers.	Funding is provided to the State Education Authority and they manage the implementation.
NationalSchool Chaplaincy Program	N/A	\$20 000
Sporting Chance Program (SCP)	The Clontarf Foundation, a provider of projects under the SCP operates the WarrnamboolFootballAcademy in WarrnamboolCollege.	\$31 500 (to the Clontarf Foundation)
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program	N/A	\$7 500

WARRNAMBOOLEASTPRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Covered outdoor learning area	\$200 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Multi purpose hall	\$3 million
NationalSchool Chaplaincy Program	N/A	\$20 000
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000

WARRNAMBOOLWESTPRIMARY SCHOOL

Program	Project(s)	Amount
BER - NationalSchool Pride	Building refurbishment	\$125 000
BER - Primary Schools for the 21st Century	Classroom refurbishment	\$2 million
NationalSchool Chaplaincy Program	N/A	\$20 000
Drought Assistance for Schools Program	N/A	\$10 000
National Partnership – LowSocio-EconomicStatusSchool Communities	N/A	\$50 000