

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for Schools

DEST Question No. E048_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Please provide copies of any correspondence, from and to organisations represented on the assessment panels for the new schools capital works program, regarding payment by the Commonwealth for replacing school principals or other individuals involved, and/or regarding payment to individual representatives for their time.

How many hours has DEST estimated that it will take panel members in Victoria to assess the over 800 applications so far received? How much would it cost to pay schools, school systems and/or individual representatives at the amounts requested? What are those amounts?

Answer:

Investing In Our Schools Programme

Copies of the correspondence received up until 19 July are attached. Personal details of non-Commonwealth employees have not been disclosed.

The time needed to be spent by assessment panel members in considering each application will depend on the member concerned and the nature of each application.

For both parent and principal representatives, the Department will cover the costs of any travel requirements associated with participation on the assessment panels.

The Government has not considered remunerating schools, principals or other State and Territory Government employees for their participation in this Programme that will deliver \$700 million to the State school system. Accordingly, no calculations have been undertaken in that regard.

As per the attached correspondence, the government has come to an arrangement with the peak parent body, the Australian Council of State School Associations (ACSSO), to coordinate and facilitate (including IT upgrades etc) the involvement of volunteer parent representatives. Any remuneration of parent representatives is a matter for ACSSO.