

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E546_06

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

Of the 561 schools responding in the AEU survey, 227 reported a drastic reduction in Indigenous parent involvement in school decision making processes. Do DEST do any such surveys or have any data which shows the effect of these funding changes on Indigenous parental involvement? If not do you intend to do so? If so when, and if not why not?

Answer:

AEU Survey on Indigenous Education Programmes

Data collections that measure and report Indigenous parent involvement in decision making are already established.

The National Report to Parliament on Indigenous Education and Training reports data obtained from the government and non-government education providers on the level of parental involvement in decision making in schools. This requirement will continue throughout 2005-2008. Trends in involvement will be identified through this data collection.

Recipients of Whole of School Intervention Strategy funding are required to report on the number of Indigenous parents and community members actively participating in the implementation of Parent School Partnerships Initiative (PSPI) projects and/or Homework Centres. Performance reports are due by 31 May 2006.

These data will be analysed and reported in the National Report to Parliament on Indigenous Education and Training. The Department may also conduct case studies of projects and/or sample surveys.