

CURRICULUM COUNCIL SURVEY

700. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Education and Training:

In answer to question without notice 634, asked on 15 September 2005, the minister referred to a recent Curriculum Council survey.

- (1) When was this survey conducted?
- (2) Where was it conducted?
- (3) What questions were the respondents asked?
- (4) How were these questions put - for example, in writing or verbally?
- (5) Will the minister table a complete copy of the survey and its results?
- (6) If not, why not?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. I refer back to the original survey which, I understand, involved teachers who were asked about the extent of their confidence in their knowledge of the outcome standards and assessment requirements and their implementation. I am pleased to report that the responses to the five questions in the survey registered confident and highly confident at levels of 85 per cent, 86 per cent, 91 per cent, 94 per cent and 95 per cent respectively. There is increased confidence with each professional development day completed by teachers. As the honourable member will be aware, I have ensured that there will be additional professional development days for the commencement of the next school year to enable teachers to improve on those outstanding responses. I will now respond to the questions asked by the member about question 634 answered on Thursday, 15 September 2005.

- (1) The survey was conducted in 2005.
- (2) The survey, known as the confidence scale survey, was administered to teachers at the end of each of the four days of English curriculum-related professional development. What great results!
- (3)-(4) Teachers were asked to respond to each of the questions indicating their level of confidence on a five-point scale as follows -

To what extent do you feel confident about -

- (i) your knowledge of the outcomes in the English course;
 - (ii) making consistent judgments about the students levels of achievement;
 - (iii) designing tasks that enable students to demonstrate the four English outcomes;
 - (iv) completing a scheme of assessment that conforms to the Curriculum Council's requirements; and
 - (v) implementing the new English course in 2006?
- (5) No; the complete copy of the survey is held in two complex databases. The summary of the data was given in answer to the earlier question, as I have just outlined.
 - (6) Not applicable.

I referred back to my answer to question 634 because members opposite seem to want to peddle a lot of misinformation about the introduction of the three new courses next year. Quite clearly, when teachers complete the professional development that has been and will continue to be provided, it can be seen from these results - 85 per cent, 86 per cent, 91 per cent, 94 per cent and 95 per cent - that there is a very high degree of confidence in the professional development given to English teachers. This demonstrates a very high degree of confidence in the implementation of the new courses for 2006.

Hon Barry House: You just keep on believing that.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: I would be interested to know what happened at the Liberal Party conference in relation to the motion on outcomes and standards education. I would be really happy to find out, because it is a well-kept secret.

Hon Barry House: They did not get around to debating that motion.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: They did not get around to it! Time and again, I have put up with this member raising the issue about deferring the implementation. The Liberal Party had a motion at its conference about the

delay of the new subjects and it could not get around to it. If that is how highly the opposition places this matter on its agenda, quite frankly it should pack up and go home. What a disgrace the member is!

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order, members! I want to hear what question Hon George Cash is interested in asking.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order members! I am sure we are all interested in the question that is about to be asked.