



Hon Peter Collier MLC
Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Electoral Affairs
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Our Ref: 34-62375

Mr Mark Warner
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations
Parliament House
WEST PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Warner

Please find attached the corrected transcripts for the Department of Education's hearing before the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations on Tuesday, 23 June 2015.

I wish to provide some additional information in relation to evidence provided at the hearing. The first instance appears on page 4, where Ms Sharyn O'Neill said "Between 2011 and 2014, when persuasive writing was introduced, it has been reasonably consistent, although year 7 persuasive writing declined slightly." Based on further advice, it is in fact the case that the decline is more significant than originally advised.

The next occurrence is on page 8. Hon Rick Mazza MLC referred to "the user contributions and charges that are recouped from agricultural colleges and farm schools; it is a bit over \$5 million a year". To clarify for the Committee's benefit, the Estimated Actual for 2014-15 is \$3.8 million, and the Budget Estimate for 2015-16 is \$3.949 million. In response to Hon Rick Mazza's question, Mr Stephen Baxter said "The charges for secondary provision would also form part of that." This is incorrect as charges are held by the schools. The "fees" are exclusively residential fees.

Lastly on page 16, during the discussion about access to school bus services to Kellerberrin District High School and Merredin College, Ms Sharyn O'Neill stated "The issue is usually whether it is a paid seat on a bus or whether it is given complimentary". The word "eligible" should replace the word "paid", because students do not pay for their seats on the bus.

Kind regards

Hon Peter Collier MLC
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

24 JUL 2015