

PERTH MODERN SCHOOL - MUSIC AND BALLET SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

748. Hon PETER COLLIER to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the decision of the government to promote Perth Modern School as a school of academic excellence. Will the highly successful music and ballet scholarship programs currently in operation at Perth Modern School be maintained in the long term; and, if not, why not?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

The selection process for entry to Perth Modern School has changed; it has become an academically selective school. The music program, which is world class, will continue. Applicants for the music program for 2007 were advised that acceptance would be conditional upon their gaining selection for the academic program. Students who failed to gain entry to Perth Modern School in the selective entry test would not be considered for music. The Graduate College of Dance is a private organisation requiring fees from applicants, enrolled students at Perth Modern School and private students from elsewhere. The Department of Education and Training previously accommodated the Graduate College of Dance at Swanbourne Senior High School. With the closure of Swanbourne in 2000, the department offered the Graduate College of Dance accommodation at the Perth Modern School site due to the availability of appropriate space and suitable dance flooring. The Graduate College of Dance will remain at Perth Modern School until a suitable site can be identified.