Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Thursday, 19 November 2015] p8672c-8673a Mr Mick Murray; Mr Dean Nalder

SCHOOL BUS SERVICES — SOUTH WEST REGION

1001. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the school bus service in the Capel area and the wider south west and the many complaints I have received over the last 12 months about the lack of seating for school children, even after the minister refused to review these services when approached by me earlier this year. When will the minister stop playing politics with the safety of our children and ensure that these services are reviewed and enhanced before the 2016 school year?

Mr D.C. NALDER replied:

Every school bus service is reviewed on a continuous basis. We are often challenged, particularly as communities grow and they become metropolitan, and metropolitan services are provided through public transport. The orange bus service is a critical component of the Western Australian bus services.

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen!

Mr D.C. NALDER: It is interesting when some people on the opposite side are quite rude.

Several members interjected.

Mr D.C. NALDER: The orange bus service is an important regional service.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr D.C. NALDER: Unfortunately, as we heard yesterday, a number on the opposite side know very little about regional Western Australia. Ask their Leader of the Opposition. The orange bus school service, whether it is Capel, Busselton or Geraldton—I can list every country town—is constantly under review.

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington!

Mr D.C. NALDER: We are always making sure that every schoolchild has access to a bus service to get to school on a daily basis. Nothing has changed. The member for Collie–Preston knows darn well that we provide a fantastic service to schoolchildren in every electorate, and this is not politically based.

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington, I call you to order for the first time. Quick answer please.

Mr D.C. NALDER: Every child is getting access to an orange school bus. To the extent they are not, we will look at an increased service.