

SCHOOL REGISTRARS - RECLASSIFICATION

565. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the Minister for Education and Training:

The Community and Public Sector Union-Civil Service Association of WA has been negotiating with the Department of Education and Training for the past 15 months over reclassification of school support staff.

- (1) What is the minister's response to figures published in the union newsletter *Vital Link* that show that 78 per cent of reclassification applications by registrars were rejected despite being supported by their principals?
- (2) Given that the union and the Department of Education and Training agreed that if 67 per cent of the benchmark survey was reached and signed off by the principal, it would mean automatic reclassification, why has that not happened?
- (3) Is there a proper appeal process and will the minister make sure that applicants receive in writing the reasons that their applications were rejected?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Of the requests for reclassification process thus far, 22 per cent have been approved for registrars, along with 86 per cent for school officers and 82 per cent for library officers. The principal in each case needed to endorse the survey or application. Under the terms of the agreed process, there was a review by panels with expertise in classification procedures.
- (2) There was never an agreement for automatic reclassification. Officers with surveys indicating that they were undertaking at least 67 per cent of their duties at a higher level were eligible to submit a request for consideration for reclassification. Each submitted survey was then subject to an agreed verification process.
- (3) Yes.