



Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

Associate Secretary
Tony Cook PSM

Committee Secretary
Education and Employment Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

I am writing in relation to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee's 2017–18 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on Thursday 26 October 2017. I would like to clarify and correct some of the evidence that I presented to the committee.

In response to questions from Senator the Hon Jacinta Collins and Senator Deborah O'Neill (pages 110 to 111 of the Proof Hansard refer) about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD), I stated that the 'first national moderation' occurred this year. NCCD data for all schools has been moderated since 2015. The first national workshop on quality improvement and assurance was held in 2017.

In response to questions from Senator Sarah Hanson-Young (page 43 of the Proof Hansard refers) about system-weighted average socio-economic status (SES) scores, I stated that under this arrangement every non-government systemic school attracts an SES score equivalent to the average SES score of all the schools in their 'state'. That should have been all of the schools in their 'system'.

I would appreciate it if you could draw these facts to the attention of the committee and pass on my apologies for any inconvenience.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Cook".

Tony Cook

27 November 2017

Opportunity through learning