

1 April 2010

To Committee Secretariat

As a secondary school teacher in the State School system of Queensland, I am writing in support of the work teacher librarians and indeed all library staff performs in order to enrich the learning experiences of each student within a school.

Students are assisted daily through the library and by the library staff. At the school I teach at, we have reading programs as part of the school curriculum along with Reading Circles and Author visits as part of extracurricular activities and allocated space for teaching and learning in the library.

Often I will book into a space in the library and 'book' a librarian to discuss research strategies, note taking or referencing with the students to enhance the quality of their work.

Given the literacy, comprehension and information communication technology (ICT) challenges facing schools in this decade, there is a growing need for professional staffing in school libraries. These areas underpin teaching and learning and libraries are needed more than ever before. Students expect to be able to access the library and expert library staff with a plethora of questions relating to their studies or reading interests. Given that some of the questions are so complex in nature, there is a need for adequate provision of professional staffing for school libraries.

I hope you carefully consider all the correspondence you receive in relation to this issue, as professional library staffs are an integral part of any high achieving school, and indeed one of the elements necessary for the provision of a Smart State.

Yours faithfully

Amy Scott-Preimonas