

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0654_15

Senator Wright asked on 22 October 2014 , Hansard page 112

P-TECH

Question

Corporations interested in P-Tech Schools

Senator WRIGHT: The federal Minister for Education, Christopher Pyne, said that fast food giants and mining firms could be among the corporations interested in the concept in Australia. I would be interested in understanding, from the point of view of either the department or the senator representing the minister, how a partnership with McDonalds might benefit schoolchildren in Australia. Senator WRIGHT: I appreciate that you did not make the statement, but, given that the Minister for Education has said this as part of his announcement of a significant amount of money for an idea he has picked up and is running with, I think it is quite reasonable to ask—a lot of people are asking—how a partnership with a fast food organisation could benefit Australian children's education. I am asking you to take it on notice and get a response from the minister. Senator Ryan: I will ask the minister if he wants to add to those comments.

Answer

The P-TECH pilot involves collaboration between education and industry to improve student outcomes, with a focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).