

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW1007_10

Senator Hanson-Young asked on 11/02/2010, Hansard page 56.

Question

ACARA - NUMBER OF SCHOOLS THAT WILL BE MOVED

Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Will you carry out a review of those schools that asked to have their comparisons and data checked, and will you be publishing the results of that review? Dr Hill—We will certainly do so as it will be part of our processes through our board committee. There is no problem with that at all. The comment we made last Friday was that we have received a number of requests to look at the index and to check to establish whether it is right. At this stage there are 26, which is not a very big number out of the 10,000. There may be more, which is fine. We will establish a process which means we will go through it in a rigorous and comprehensive manner, starting with the data itself to ensure that it is correct. I mentioned before the break that we had given that period, but I was not able to clarify when it was. I clarified that over the lunch period. They had from September right through to the end of December to clarify that. These are the systems. Senator HANSON-YOUNG—This is where there is a moving of some schools from one category to another. Ms Paul—That is right. Dr Hill—Yes. Senator HANSON-YOUNG—Will you take that question on notice and provide us with the number of schools that will be moved? The categories would also be good. Prof. McGaw—Yes.

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response.

Of the 26 requests referred to at Senate estimates no school has had its ICSEA changed at this point in time. Six will remain unchanged following verification of the data and 20 are still being investigated by ACARA. For the six that remain unchanged, the individuals or organisations have been provided with an explanation. For the remaining 20 queries, additional information is being sought on student address details so the ICSEA values can be verified. Those individuals or organisations requesting clarification of ICSEA values have been advised of this process.