

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0171_12

Senator Mason provided in writing.

Question

Glenvale State School - BER

In respect of the Building the Education Revolution program, and the project located at the Glenvale State School (in Queensland), can the Department please advise whether it is aware of the following, and any relevant details relating thereto: (a) reports that the project to build a small extension to the multi-purpose hall and the resource centre at this school as part of the BER program is now more than 6 months overdue and still does not have an agreed completion or handover date? (b) reports that the project manager, Laing O'Rourke, failed to advise the builder of the need for a light and sound system, and that the P&C Association is now facing the prospect of having to itself pay approximately \$70,000 for light and sound system? (c) Reports that the outstanding quality and finishing issues that have not yet been completed or remedied include: the resupply of carpet in the library, new concrete stairs down to the school oval, a new concrete path from the multi-purpose hall to an existing pathway, and installation of fixed bench seating at the library? (d) reports that the delay in the project's completion has also meant that the P&C have not been able to hold any of its fundraising events that had been budgeted for Term 1 2011, and there is still uncertainty as to whether any of the planned fundraising events for Term 2 2011 will be able to be held, creating a potential loss of approximately \$10,000 for the school's P&C Association?

Answer

The Queensland Department of Education and Training has advised the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations that:

- (a) The library and multi-purpose hall built under the Primary Schools for the 21st Century element of the Building the Education Revolution (BER) at Glenvale State School was completed on 10 June 2011. Delays to the projects have been due to severe weather events that affected Queensland earlier this year.
- (b) Light and sound systems are not classed as a standard inclusion in Queensland state schools. A contribution for their procurement and installation from the P&C Association may be required; however this is dependent on the balance of remaining project contingency funds.
- (c) The re-supply of carpet to the resource centre; the works on steps from the resource centre to the oval; and paths from the hall to an existing pathway

have been completed. The details of this include:

- The carpet in the library was replaced on 3 June 2011 at the cost of the contractor.
- The concrete path from the hall to the existing pathway was completed by 10 June 2011. However, the school has requested additional pathway works on the southern side of the hall and will employ a contractor of their own choosing to complete the works. The funds are to come from the project contingency fund.
- The works on the steps from resource centre to the oval were completed on 31 May 2011.

Quotes have been received for the installation of bench seating in the library. As at 8 July 2011, the project delivery team, construction management team and the QLD DET project coordinator are awaiting direction from the school to proceed.

- (d) The project team, including the Construction Manager, has ensured that completion and handover timeframes for this project have been discussed with and communicated to the school and P&C Association. The new BER facilities will be available for activities in Semester 2, 2011.