

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO COMMITMENTS SOUGHT BY QCEC AND THE QUEENSLAND P&F FEDERATION QUEENSLAND STATE ELECTION 31 JANUARY 2015

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY RESPONSE Link to full response from ALP	LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY RESPONSE Link to full response from LNP
1. Annual per student funding that keeps pace with the rising costs of education	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If elected Labor will continue the existing method of providing state funding to Catholic and independent schools through the basket-nexus formula. As the cost of educating a child increases in the state system there will be a commensurate increase in per student funding to the Catholic system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LNP Government is committed to ensuring all Queensland children receive a first class education, regardless of which sector provides that education. We support parents' right to choose the school they believe will be best for their child and consistent with their personal values or faith. The LNP Government is committed to continuing its close engagement with QCEC to ensure that Catholic schools in Queensland have the certainty they will be able to continue to provide Queensland families with an affordable and high quality choice when it comes to education.
2. Increased capital funding to deliver the additional student places required to meet the needs of Queensland's growing population	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Labor appreciates that the schools planning process currently underway has widespread support among education stakeholders and we will continue this collaborative process. We also believe there is an appropriate role for government to provide capital grants to the non-state schooling sector for the construction of new schools and upgrades of existing schools. A Labor Government will provide an additional \$37 million (\$25 million for the Catholic School sector) in capital grants for the non-state schooling sector in each of the 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 financial years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LNP Government supports the right of parents to send their children to a Catholic school and recognises the responsibility of government to provide an appropriate share of capital funding for those schools. The <i>Future Schools Fund</i> will include \$700 million to provide up to 22 new schools across the state, ensuring that we plan properly for a bright future for Queensland kids. A re-elected LNP Government will be informed by the current policy framework for capital funding and other capital contributions to government, Catholic and independent schools on the basis of the recommendations provided to the Government by the <i>Queensland Schools Planning Commission</i>. Proposals for capital funding from any of the three sectors will be considered when the detailed arrangements for the fund are established. The capital funding to be made available under the <i>Future Schools Fund</i> will be an additional investment by a re-elected LNP Government.
3. Support for Students With Disability (SWD)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In government, Queensland Labor will examine the possibility of creating teams of specialists to ensure all children in our state, whether they are educated in state, Catholic or independent schools are assessed for disability support and are provided with the help they need. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LNP Government is committed to ensuring that all Queenslanders are provided with the appropriate support to enable them to achieve positive educational outcomes. We are committed to further consultation with QCEC and the independent sector to ensure that students with a disability continue to have access to high quality specialist staff, and are open to providing access, support and advice on a fee for service basis. Re NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme): We welcome the opportunity to work with QCEC and other key stakeholders in the education sector should we be re-elected.

<p>4. Support for Vocational Education and Training (VET) for secondary school students</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Labor Government will invest \$34 million to rebuild the Queensland TAFE system. In particular we will invest \$5 million over three years to increase the number of courses available through VET in schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With respect to accessibility (to VET) for those living in regional and rural areas, Registered Training Organisations (RTO) will often offer training delivery in a variety of modes and formats and online delivery is accessible for many qualifications. • In relation to the options available for female students under the <i>Employment Stream</i> our VET Investment Plan is reviewed every year and these concerns will be given due consideration ahead of the release of the 2015/16 VET Investment Plan. • QCEC currently receives \$866,200 annually. We are committed to actively reviewing the VET allocation beyond 2015.
<p>5. Parent Engagement Strategies The Catholic sector is seeking a commitment from the next Queensland Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work collaboratively to support strategies to enhance parent engagement across all Queensland schools • provide \$250,000 in funding to enable the Catholic sector to roll out its recently developed framework for parent engagement, including a bank of resources and standards that enable schools to measure their success • collaboratively devise and support a program of research and planning to further connect schools and playgroups and assist parents with the necessary tools in the vital first three years. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queensland Labor is encouraged by the ongoing research and evidence which demonstrates that strategies to involve parents in their children's education have real and lasting benefits. • We will work with the Catholic sector to design and support parent engagement strategies with an appropriate program of research to analyse the efficacy of particular actions. A Labor Government will make available \$250,000 over three years to the Queensland P&F Association to roll out its parent engagement strategy in Catholic schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LNP Government welcomes QCEC's desire to work collaboratively to support strategies to enhance parent engagement. • This includes empowering families and providing opportunities for them to be engaged in their child's learning, and enabling regular and valued two-way communication with parents and communities about children and their school. (We).....look forward to further consultation as we work to finalise the <i>Queensland Education Accord</i> and our shared vision for the future of education in our state. • With respect to your request for \$250,000 in funding to enable the Catholic sector to roll out its new framework for parent engagement, we will be making new policy announcements to enhance the LNP's strong plan for Queensland over the remaining days of the election campaign.