Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Thursday, 5 November 2020] p7505c-7505c Hon Colin Tincknell; Hon Sue Ellery

PUBLIC SCHOOLS — STAFF-TO-STUDENT RATIOS

- 3294. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Education and Training:
- (1) Will the Minister please list the individual teacher to student ratios for each public school in 2017?
- (2) Will the Minister please list the individual teacher to student ratios for each public school in 2020?
- (3) Will the Minister please list the average teacher to student ratios for 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 in:
 - (a) primary schools;
 - (b) secondary schools; and
 - (c) overall?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

It is convention to report student to teacher ratios, not teacher to student ratios. Such information is provided in the tabled paper for the categories of Western Australian public schools specified in the questions.

The ratios reported in the tabled paper do not align to those reported to and by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as part of the annual National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC). This is because student-to-teacher ratios reported under the NSSC exclude students and teachers in Kindergarten and are not applicable to individual schools. All other parameters are the same.

Some schools, such as the Schools of Special Educational Needs: Sensory and Behaviour and Engagement, have particularly low student to teacher ratios because they directly enrol only a very small proportion of the students that their staff support. Staff at these schools predominantly support students enrolled at other public schools.

(1)–(3) [See tabled paper no <u>4564</u>.]