

BINNU PRIMARY SCHOOL — LEADERSHIP

1353. Hon SUE ELLERY to the Minister for Education:

I refer to concerns of parents about the high turnover of school leadership at Binnu Primary School.

- (1) Why did the school community have to wait over 12 months for either an acting principal or a substantive principal role to be advertised?
- (2) Is it acceptable that Binnu Primary School has had eight principals over seven years?
- (3) Will the minister give the school community an assurance that the instability in school leadership will be resolved?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(3) Section 8 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994 requires the Department of Education to act independently of the minister in matters pertaining to human resource management. However, I can advise that every effort has been made to have permanent stability of leadership at Binnu Primary School. Unfortunately, staff appointed to the school have chosen to seek other opportunities or promotion. Throughout 2016, the regional executive director for the midwest education region has kept the Binnu school community well informed, through liaison with the school council chairperson and via school newsletters, of the process to appoint a permanent principal to Binnu Primary School. An experienced level 3 principal has now been substantively appointed to commence at Binnu Primary School in 2017.