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Mr Rob Fairs MP
Liberal Member for Bass
Email c/o Clerk of Assembly: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Fairs

Thank you for your Constituent Question on Thursday, 10 April 2025, asked as follows:

Recognising that you released the final report of the independent review of education in Tasmania in January of this year, I understand the government has identified four areas where we can take immediate action to achieve improved outcomes. These areas include improving school staff well-being, ensuring alignment between our education system and the University of Tasmania, and getting ready to try a multi-school organisation model.

What is the status of those immediate actions? How much progress has been made?

I am pleased to provide the following update on the progress of the four immediate action areas outlined in the Final Report from the Independent Review of Education in Tasmania, released in January 2025, as detailed below:

Supporting school staff wellbeing

The wellbeing of all staff in our schools is of paramount importance and I am pleased to advise that we are establishing a new School Staff Wellbeing Response Team within the Department for Education, Children and Young People as part of our response to the Final Report. A recruitment process currently underway for this new team.

We are still working through the finer details of how the team will function, but I can confirm these individuals will provide direct, specialist support to school leaders from both a proactive wellbeing coordination and planning perspective as well as assisting with support coordination during and after a critical incident.

Supercharging our Lifting Literacy initiative in schools

As the Final Report highlighted, we are seeing positive results from schools that have implemented the lifting literacy initiative. We are in a wonderful position where we can supercharge our literacy efforts in schools through our new funding under the Better and Fairer Schools Agreement.

A lot of consideration has gone into determining which specific supports will have the most impact on the ground and we are now finalising these arrangements. Schools will be able to start accessing additional supports and resources this term.

Alignment between our education system and the University of Tasmania

To ensure that we are setting the next generation of teachers up for success from day one of their degree, work is currently underway to develop an education related agreement with the University of Tasmania. This agreement will focus on how the education system and University can work together, to train, equip and support our teaching workforce – with better educational outcomes for our children at the centre.

Multi-School Organisations

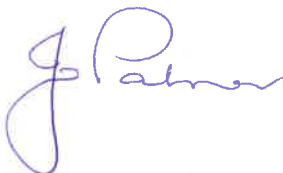
Work is currently underway to design what a Multi-School Organisation trial could look like in Tasmania, which would see networks of schools bound together through a united leadership team that is accountable for student results. We are aiming to have a small-scale trial in place for the 2026 school year.

At the same time as progressing these priority areas, we are not losing sight of the other recommendations from the Final Report. Of the 14 recommendations in the Final Report, we have accepted 13 in full, with the remaining recommendation accepted in-principle, with further analysis to be undertaken around funding professional associations to deliver discipline-specific professional learning.

Leads have been assigned to progress each of the recommendations, with three being collectively led by Tasmanian education sectors, three led by the Department for Education, Children and Young People and eight implemented independently within each sector with learnings shared through the Advisory Council for Education, which is made up of the Secretary, Department for Education Children and Young People and the Executive Directors of Independent Schools Tasmania and Catholic Education Tasmania.

Thank you again for your question and the opportunity to provide an update on this important work.

Yours sincerely



Hon Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Education