Recipient Details

Name of organisation or individual: [I] Hodges, Jacqueline

Reference Type: Parent - School

State or territory: NSW

Serial Identification Number: 474351

Responses

Curriculum and assessment

use technology to create virtual classes so students can have an equivalent range of subject choices as their urban counterparts. Money will need to be provided so that the students are supported by a teacher in their own school even if they are not being taught by that teacher. More examples of how much time others put into study and assessments to get excellent results.

Rating: 5

Teachers and teaching

Teachers are highly trained professionals. At some point, responsibility for results must lie with the person taking the course. Teachers can help and guide students but they can't do their work for them. It's important to pay teachers at the same rate as members of parliament (ie backbencher= top scale classroom teacher)to attract and retain the best and most capable people for a complex and vital profession.

Rating: 5

Leaders and leadership

Too many school leaders are using the position to advance their careers in head office or moving to the private sector. An inspirational leader unites parents, students, staff and community with a vision for education. This will support and improve student achievement. Prestige and financial remuneration aren't everything but it would help to recruit strong and visionary leaders.

Rating: 6

School and Community

Schools need to be supported by the community. A strong parent and community body ensures that education is seen as the centre and focus of the community. Supporting schools and teachers improve outcomes for students.

Rating: 5

Information and Communication Technology

Students access technology everywhere in today's society. rather than learning how to use technology they need to know how to discriminate between what is real and what is 'fake news.' Becoming critical thinkers is a main objective, they can already access and use technology.

Rating: 4

Entrepreneurship and schools

Not at all. The role of schools is to educate. The role of work is to train people for their jobs.

Rating: 0

Improving access – enrolments, clusters, distance education and boarding

Having Gifted and Talented children in the country is frustrating and poverty inducing. They are not catered for in rural schools and there is no funding to support them to go to the city and follow their dreams. We are losing talent and intelligence as students are unable to access the specialised education they need. Support classes are plentiful and those students are well catered for.

Rating for enrolments: 2

Rating for clusters: 3

Rating for distance education: 4

Rating for boarding: 7

Diversity

It is important to accept and cater for everyone in society and schools should do this too. ESES and L&S plans to provide differentiated learning is working towards this.

Rating: 5

Transitioning beyond school

It is the role of the tertiary institution or workplace to provide training for the role they need filled. Schools provide a broad and general education and prepare students to undertake further training or to enter the workforce as reliable employees. They do not train people for careers. That is not what schools are for. nor are schools there to provide free childcare for working parents by increasing their hours of operation. Schools are not employers or parents.

Rating: 4

Additional Comments

More money and resources need to be given to rural and remote schools to overcome the disadvantage the students face. City kids can attend a play, dance performance or gallery in an afternoon while it is a major costly three day excursion for a country kid. More incentives for teachers to come and stay in rural schools would stop the high turn over of staff that impacts on student outcomes and school culture. Things like more money to offset higher travel costs ($490 one way to fly to Sydney!) and return trips every school holidays to capital cities.