



July 17, 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Last wants certainty for school communities

Member for Burdekin, Dale Last, has called on Education Queensland to address the delays in appointing permanent Principals to a number of schools throughout the Electorate.

In an answer to a Question on Notice, the Minister for Education, Grace Grace, has revealed that, as of May 21st, there were seven schools with Acting Principals in the Burdekin Electorate.

Mr Last said that students, their families, teachers and even the Acting Principals deserved certainty.

“Permanent School Principals provide a level of stability and strategic direction that Acting principals are unable to give and our rural and regional schools deserved the same level of service and commitment from the Government as those schools in metropolitan areas,” Mr Last said.

“Of course there are going to be times when you need to appoint an Acting Principal due to leave or other issues but this should be a short-term appointment instead of leaving everyone in limbo.”

Mr Last’s question in parliament asked what was being done to make permanent appointments to these positions, however the Minister said there were no vacancies, moments after confirming the Acting Principal positions.

“I’m not saying there are vacancies, you have dedicated teachers who are doing an amazing job as Acting Principals,” Mr Last said.

“I am just asking for some certainty for them and the rest of the school community.”

“There are some reports of schools having the same Acting Principal for over a year which is simply not good enough.”

“The education of our children is of paramount important and the Minister should do the right thing and remove the uncertainty that exists in these schools.”

ENDS

Media Contact: David Cooper 0427 834 844

Link to Question on Notice and Minister’s response:

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/tableOffice/questionsAnswers/2018/661-2018.pdf>