Funds for Families on School Card in Drought Affected Areas

The AISSA has written to the State Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (Hon Rory McEwen MP) seeking clarification on the access to additional financial assistance for families with children at non-government schools living in drought affected areas.

$1.22 million has been allocated by the State Government to help farm families in drought affected areas to meet the costs of educational expenses such as camps, excursions and other school events. The assistance appears limited to 'Approved School Card students attending Government schools in drought affected areas'. These School Card recipients, approved in 2007 under the drought assistance criteria, will receive an additional $150 per student to assist in the cost of educational expenses other than Materials and Services charges.

Students attending Non-government schools in Exceptional Circumstances areas and eligible for School Card under the drought assistance criteria do not receive the additional $150 (above).

As yet no reply has been received. (25 February 2008)