
From: Deputy Director-General, Corporate Services

Sent: Thursday, 5 June 2014 9:26 AM

To: @All School.Principal Secondary Schools; @All School.Principal Central Schools; @All School.Principal Schools for Specific Purposes; @Public Schools NSW Directors; @Public Schools NSW Directors Educational Services

Subject: Update on Technology Support Officers

Dear Colleagues

In October 2013 the Department was able to extend the engagement of onsite Technology Support Officers (TSOs) in our secondary schools until 27 June 2014 only using residual funding from the Digital Education Revolution (DER) Program.

The Commonwealth funded National Secondary Schools Computer Fund National Partnership has ceased and the Department will not be able to centrally fund the engagement of Technology Support Officers in schools when their current contract ends on 27 June 2014.

A review of technical support for schools was recently completed by the Department. The review identified a range of options and associated support models which were discussed with the Secondary Principals' Council and Primary Principals' Association. The review confirmed that without a substitute funding source the central engagement and allocation of TSOs is no longer possible.

While the Department will continue to provide geographically based technology support personnel through the regionally based T4L ICT Support staff, the onsite support provided by TSOs under the DER Program will cease at the end of this term.

However schools will be able to engage a TSO directly if they wish.

The DER Program Office will distribute an information package that will help you create a 'TSO style' position. Should your school wish to create such a position, please ensure you follow the directions provided in the package to enable this to be processed as soon as possible.

Should your school not wish to re-engage your existing temporary TSO, the package also includes details about the final separation procedure you will need to follow to ensure that the TSO at your school receives their final entitlements.

I acknowledge the role played by Technology Support Officers in supporting teachers and students and thank them for their contribution to public education as part of the DER Program.

Regards

Stephen Loquet
R/Deputy Secretary, Education and Communities