



Adrian Piccoli
Minister for Education

MEDIA RELEASE

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RENEWED FOCUS ON STRONGER EDUCATION STANDARDS

NSW schools, teachers and students will benefit from major changes to the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES), Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli announced today.

In March 2016, the NSW Government announced an independent review of BOSTES. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the review, chaired by Emeritus Professor Bill Loudon AM.

BOSTES is responsible for the school curriculum, the HSC, and teaching and regulatory standards in NSW schools. From 2017 it will become the NSW Education Standards Authority.

The modernised agency will:

- Be led by a streamlined Board of up to 14 educational leaders;
- Introduce random, risk-based school inspections and thematic reviews;
- Identify schools needing support to meet regulatory requirements; and
- Ensure teachers have more curriculum flexibility to engage students with deeper learning, using regularly updated syllabuses, particularly in technology-rich subjects like IT and STEM.

“The BOSTES plays an important role in education in NSW and these reforms will give it increased authority to support quality teaching in every classroom across every school and every sector,” Mr Piccoli said.

“The NSW Government is committed to higher standards and improving results for every student. This new streamlined, strategic Board will ensure a strong, coherent focus on standards across the State. We want to ensure students are achieving the best results possible.

“These changes will ensure teachers are better supported, cut red tape for schools and give students faster access to innovative, contemporary syllabuses.”

BOSTES President Tom Alegounarias said the Authority will be strategically focused to better support quality teaching and learning.

“I welcome the review and these changes. The Authority will strengthen and build on the foundation of trust and respect that BOSTES has established,” Mr Alegounarias said.

The review report and recommendations can be found on the BOSTES review website <http://bostesreview.nsw.edu.au/>.

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