



Hon Geoff Wilson MP
Member for Ferny Grove



**Queensland
Government**

Minister for Education and Training

02 JUL 2009

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 29 April 2009 regarding the petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No 1222-09.

The petition from electors in the Division of Cook requesting the House finalise negotiations with the Traditional Owners about the new site for the school on Murray Island and allocate funding for its construction is noted.

Negotiations are progressing with the Traditional Owners of the Island. The Traditional Owners have proposed a school site and met with officers from the Department of Education and Training. The Department has submitted an offer to the Traditional Owners to establish a long-term lease over the proposed school site.

My Department would prefer to open the new school for the 2011 teaching year, and will be working closely with the Island's school community to ensure the new school meets the needs of students and the community. Funds have also been allocated to achieve this.

Should you require additional information, you can contact Mr Mark Tierney, Director, Infrastructure Planning, Infrastructure Services Division, on telephone (07) 3237 0224 or by email at mark.tierney@deta.qld.gov.au.

i trust this information will assist your reply to the Murray Island community.

Yours sincerely

GEOFF WILSON MP
Minister for Education and Training

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