



Hon Cameron Dick MP
Member for Greenslopes



**Queensland
Government**

01 SEP 2011

**Minister for Education and
Industrial Relations**

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Email: tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear ~~Mr~~ Laurie Neil,

I refer to Petition 1668-11 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 2 August 2011 regarding the secondary school servicing of the area of Highfields (Toowoomba Regional Authority). May I acknowledge the strong advocacy from the Member for Toowoomba North and the Highfields community on the issue of the need for a secondary school to serve the Highfields area. I met with the Member and community representatives, at the Toowoomba Community Cabinet and later at Highfields, on 28 July, to discuss this issue.

The Department of Education and Training has purchased a block of land at Highfields for a secondary school, should population growth demonstrate such a need in the future.

The size of secondary schools is closely linked to the availability and quality of school offerings and experiences at the different levels.

I would like to take this opportunity to advise you that the Department will be conducting a further strategic review to assess secondary school provision in this wider area. This review will examine the impact to the quality of school offerings that may result from the construction of a high school at Highfields and changes to enrolment numbers associated with the implementation of the Year 7 initiative from 2015.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to respond to this matter.

Yours sincerely

CAMERON DICK MP
Minister for Education and Industrial Relations

Ref: 11/204225 ET/11/3089

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