



Office of the Minister for
Education, Training
and Employment

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

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil,*

I refer to Petition 1896-12 tabled in the Legislative Assembly regarding the request for a feasibility study to be undertaken to investigate the need for a state secondary school to serve the residents living west of the Pacific Highway, and within the Gold Coast City Council suburbs of Mudgeeraba and Bonogin.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring that all areas across the State are continually assessed in terms of the need for more accessible schooling. Departmental guidelines are employed for this purpose to ensure that such assessment is undertaken impartially and fairly.

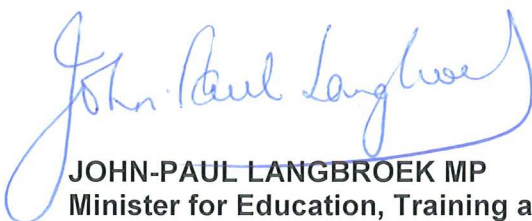
The suburbs of Mudgeeraba and Bonogin are served by Robina State High School. Enrolments at Robina State High School have declined steadily over the past few years, from 1,379 students in 2009 to the present enrolments in 2012 of 1,202 students.

The decline in enrolments is reflective of the ageing demographic structure of these suburbs. A new urban secondary school is expected to peak at approximately 1,500 to 1,700 students. There is limited further residential growth potential remaining in this area, which is not enough to arrest the overall student number decline that is now occurring.

In addition to state school planning, the Queensland Government has committed to establish a Queensland Schools Plan Commission to ensure that planning by Government and the school sectors is strategic and coordinated. The future schooling needs of Mudgeeraba and Bonogin, together with the rest of Queensland, will be considered through this process.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Ms Lee Callum, Executive Director, Strategy, Research and Performance, Infrastructure Services Branch, on telephone 3237 0950.

Yours sincerely


JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 12/199007

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