



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

Neil,

I refer to petitions 2015-12 and 1990-12 tabled in Parliament on 15 November 2012 regarding support for the Queensland School for Travelling Show Children (QSTSC).

I acknowledge the community's concerns regarding the closure of QSTSC. The Queensland Government is committed to all Queensland children having access to the best education opportunities available. As part of this we have examined the delivery of QSTSC and believe that the services being provided were not leading to the best educational outcomes for the children involved.

I note the petitioners' request to immediately reinstate funding to QSTSC. My Department has taken into consideration the operation of QSTSC, and has determined that it will cease operating. From 2013, students enrolled in this school have been encouraged to enrol in the Brisbane School of Distance Education (BSDE).

Since 2010, QSTSC students have had access to a range of BSDE resources and support services. From 2013, BSDE will offer these children access to the latest learning materials, a growing range of wider curriculum offerings including languages, as well as the assistance of a special needs' support team.

My Department is committed to supporting the transition of students of the QSTSC to BSDE and addressing concerns raised by their parents. Representatives of QSTSC's Parent's and Citizens Association have been involved in consultation with my Department and BSDE in order to resolve community concerns about the delivery of BSDE's program. A Transition Advisory Group consisting of representatives from the Department's Metropolitan Region, BSDE and QSTSC has also been formed to assist in this process.

I would like to thank petitioners for raising their concerns with me. Their interest and advocacy for the QSTSC is appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John-Paul Langbroek'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.
JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

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