



Minister for Education  
Minister for Tourism, Major Events,  
Small Business and the Commonwealth Games

12 OCT 2015

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of Parliament  
Queensland Parliament  
Cnr George and Alice Streets  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Level 22 Education House  
30 Mary Street Brisbane 4000  
PO Box 15033 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3719 7530  
Email [education@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:education@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petitions 2367–15 and 2453–15, which were tabled on 15 and 16 September 2015 respectively, and note Petitioners' request that the Government fund the construction of an arts and sports hall at Toowoomba State High School's Wilsonton Campus. I also acknowledge previous Petitions 2343–14 and 2384–14 on this matter.

The capital works funding for the 2015–16 financial year has been placed under considerable pressure owing to the previous Government's commitment to funding 10 new schools in South East Queensland under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. I must advise petitioners that this decision has contributed to significant financial constraints.

As a result of this decision, approximately one-third of the 2015–16 capital works funding that could be allocated to projects, such as new school halls, must be directed to payments to support PPP schools. The remaining funds will be required to deliver new classrooms to cater for significant growth in student numbers across Queensland.

Although the Government cannot commit to funding this project in the 2015–16 year, I would like to assure your petitioners that the project will be assessed when formulating future capital works programs.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Mr Kevin Mara, Assistant Director-General, Infrastructure Services, Department of Education and Training by email at [kevin.mara@dete.qld.gov.au](mailto:kevin.mara@dete.qld.gov.au) or on telephone 3034 4520.

Your petitioners' advocacy on behalf of Toowoomba State High School Wilsonton Campus is appreciated and I trust that this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Jones', written over a light blue horizontal line.

**KATE JONES MP**  
**Minister for Education**  
**Minister for Tourism, Major Events,**  
**Small Business and the Commonwealth Games**

Ref: 15/365349