



Minister for Education  
Minister for Industrial Relations and  
Minister for Racing

14 DEC 2021

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Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
Email: [tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to E-Petition 3527-21 tabled on 16 November 2021 in the Legislative Assembly requesting a school hall to accommodate the student population of William Ross State High School.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring all students, no matter where they live, have access to high-quality learning opportunities within their local communities.

During Term 2, 2021, the Department of Education engaged consultants to carry out a planning exercise for a multi-purpose hall at William Ross State High School. Since this engagement, the department has been working closely with the school and has issued preliminary concept plans to respective stakeholders for feedback.

Importantly, throughout the planning exercise it was identified that a flood model study is required to determine suitable positioning and respective design elements for the concept building. The flood model study and final concept designs are expected to be finalised by the end of Term 4, 2021.

The preliminary design for a multi-purpose hall provides for a floor area of 965m<sup>2</sup> and the seating capacity will be based on this footprint.

The multi-purpose hall will be considered for funding as part of the formulation of the 2022–23 Infrastructure Investment Program.

In relation to air conditioning as a requirement for a multi-purpose hall at William Ross State High School, departmental guidelines specify a multi-purpose hall does not qualify as an air conditioned space. However, the department takes steps to ensure design incorporates passive ventilation and the provision of large fans to assist with circulation.

I thank the petitioners for raising this matter and I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**GRACE GRACE MP**  
**Minister for Education**  
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