



Minister for Education  
Minister for Industrial Relations and  
Minister for Racing

08 NOV 2022

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

Dear Mr Laurie

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil," with a flourish at the end.

Thank you for your letter dated 13 October 2022 regarding Petition 3801-22, requesting a fully enclosed hall or indoor sports facility at Toowoomba North State School.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to building fit-for-purpose learning environments that support educational outcomes across the State.

When considering new infrastructure projects for school facilities, such as an indoor sports facility/hall, the Department of Education works closely with principals to develop a list of priorities through a School Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SSIP). The SSIP is the department's primary method for identifying and prioritising facility needs for each Queensland state school.

SSIP proposals are considered and assessed through a prioritisation process to ensure the highest needs across the State are met. This process is used to develop the department's short, medium and long-term investment priorities, which are subject to funding approval.

I can confirm that Toowoomba North State School's current SSIP lists the refurbishment of the existing multi-purpose hall, to increase capacity of the facility, as the first priority.

Funding has been allocated in the department's current Infrastructure Investment Portfolio for planning for renewal at Toowoomba North State School.

As part of the planning process, departmental officers visited the school in August 2022 to discuss options for a refurbishment of the existing multi-purpose hall, including providing a fully enclosed facility and delivery of new amenities and storage spaces.

A facilities brief outlining the school's requirements has been completed and endorsed by the school on 27 October 2022. The department is now in the process of engaging consultants, including engineering experts, to advise on the feasibility of enclosing and extending the hall. This advice and subsequent planning is likely to be completed by the end of Term 1, 2023 and will enable a cost estimate to be prepared for the project.

The work to upgrade the multi-purpose hall at Toowoomba North State School can then be considered for funding. This consideration will form part of the state-wide prioritisation and budget process for the 2023–24 financial year.

Please be assured that the department will continue to work closely with Toowoomba North State School to support this process.

I would like to thank you and the principal petitioner and every person who signed the petition for their advocacy for Toowoomba North State School.

If you require additional information or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me directly or alternatively your staff can contact Ms Sharon Durham, Chief of Staff of my office, on (07) 3719 7110.

Yours sincerely



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