



The Honourable Rod Welford MP



Queensland
Government

22 JUN 2007

Minister for Education and Training
Minister for the Arts

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 24 May 2007 regarding a petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly numbered 836-07.

The petition raises the population growth potential of the Highfields area and the subsequent implication for land acquisition for the provision of a secondary school in the Crows Nest Shire at Highfields. I note that the petition predicts a future need for a secondary school and requests the department to procure land which would be appropriate to the location of a future school. I also note the petitioners concern over rising land costs in the Highfields Town Centre vicinity.

Advice from the department, based on council growth estimates and current school enrolments growth, does not indicate a need for a further secondary school within a 20 year period.

Nevertheless, based on the information provided in the petition, I will request that officers of the Strategic Facilities Branch of the department review this data, in consultation with relevant officers within the Darling Downs and South West Queensland Region.

Should you wish to contribute data to this review, or contact an officer with regard to this letter, you can contact Mr John Brazier, Regional Facilities Manager, Darling Downs and South West Queensland Region on telephone (07) 4616 9184.

Thank you for providing me with a copy of this petition, and for allowing me the opportunity to respond.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Margaret Keech MP
Acting Minister for Education and Training
Acting Minister for the Arts

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