

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Corner Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 10 August 2007 regarding a petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly numbered 874-07 lodged on behalf of residents of Mt Crosby, Karana Downs, Karalee and Chuwar in relation to enrolment at Kenmore State High School.

Education Queensland is committed to ensuring that all students are able to attend their local school. Where schools are reaching capacity, the principal investigates the implementation of an Enrolment Management Plan (EMP) based on equidistant boundaries between schools. This allows the management of students from outside the school's catchment area to ensure that total current and forecast enrolments do not exceed the school's facilities capacity, and there is a distribution of students across year levels or class groupings.

An EMP has been developed to manage enrolments at Kenmore State High School. Where spare capacity exists for out of catchment students, the EMP has included in the criteria, the enrolment of children from the suburbs mentioned in the petition.

I announced on 8 June 2007, the commencement of plans for a major redevelopment of Kenmore State High School to help accommodate growing student numbers. The expansion will also allow additional students to attend the school from out of catchment, with preference given to students in the Mt Crosby, Karana Downs and Karalee areas. This will be reflected in Kenmore State High School's EMP that is being updated in conjunction with the school's redevelopment. The plan will be updated in consultation with the community.

The department uses demographic data to carefully consider both new school provision and the expansion of facilities in established schools. Predicted enrolment numbers indicate that no new state high school will be required in the Karana Downs area within the department's 20 year plan. The provision of additional facilities at Kenmore State High School will be sufficient to meet growth both within catchment and the areas referred to in the petition.

Should you wish to obtain further details in relation to this matter, you can contact Mr Pat Heenan, Executive Director (Schools), Brisbane Central and West District on telephone (07) 3350 7856.

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

Yours sincerely

Rod Welford MP

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