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

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2 1 SEP 2017

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petitions 2737–17, 2813–17 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 23 August 2017 and 2817–17 on 24 August 2017 regarding a new high school for the Moggill Electorate.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring all students, no matter where they live, have access to a range of high quality education and training facilities.

The Department of Education and Training actively monitors enrolment growth and conducts ongoing analysis for schools planning through the Queensland Schools Planning Reference Committee in collaboration with the non-state school sectors. This work assesses population trends, proposed residential developments and school capacity to help guide future planning and is underpinned by student population projections developed by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office. These projections are based on information provided by local governments outlining land development and indicative timelines for development.

The Department has advised that based on projections, the local area is not identified as high growth and that evidence does not support delivery of new school infrastructure in the area. Based on the demand data available, a new high school to service the Moggill Electorate would not be viable given the low number of secondary school-aged students.

The main secondary school for the Moggill Electorate is Kenmore State High School with current enrolment of 1936 students. As Kenmore State High School has a built capacity of 2712, the utilisation rate is 71%, indicating sufficient capacity for future growth.

Under the former Newman Government, the Queensland Schools Planning Commission did not identify the need for new school infrastructure in their report released in 2014.

The Department will continue to review planning regularly, for all areas of Queensland, and will monitor student growth closely in the Moggill Electorate. Future funding for new schools is subject to consideration of the capacity of the existing school network to meet projected enrolment pressure. This consideration will ensure that only the most essential and high priority projects are funded.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Mr Kevin Mara, Assistant Director-General, Infrastructure Services, on telephone 3034 4520 or by email at kevin.mara@det.qld.gov.au.

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this matter and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

KATE JONES MP

Minister for Education and

Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Commonwealth Games

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