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11 July 2024

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament

Email: tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 14 June 2024 regarding Petition No. 4079-24 in relation to school playground equipment at Coomera State School.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing all students with access to high-quality educational facilities by prioritising infrastructure where it is most needed across the State.

As you may be aware, the Department of Education is investing approximately \$150 million to upgrade playground and tuckshop facilities in schools across Queensland to support and improve health and wellbeing opportunities for students.

Since 2022, under the *Eat right, Play right, Learn well* initiative, 418 individual state schools have been approved funding across 427 projects. This includes 284 projects for playground upgrades. The program supports the Government's ongoing commitment to enhancing the educational opportunities available to all Queensland children.

Through the program, schools were able to apply for funding of up to \$500,000 (excluding GST) to upgrade playgrounds, including to replace soft fall surfacing and install shade cover structures, and for tuckshops to purchase items such as catering appliances and equipment, install stainless steel benches and upgrade facilities.

I am pleased to advise that Coomera State School was successful in securing \$227,273 (excluding GST) in funding to replace the playground in the Early Years Precinct. The school was successful under Tranche 3 of the program, announced on 30 May 2024.

Delivery of the project is being managed by the Department, with preliminary planning underway. An officer from the Infrastructure Services Division has arranged to meet with the school in Term 3, 2024, to confirm the project scope and to discuss delivery timelines.

I would like to thank you, the principal petitioner, and every person who signed the petition for their interest in the Queensland state education system.

Yours sincerely

DI FARMER MP
Minister for Education and
Minister for Youth Justice

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