



Anna Bligh MP



**Queensland
Government**

**Minister for Education and
Minister for the Arts**

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No. 411 – 04

I refer to your letter of the 25th November and the petition lodged with the Queensland Legislative Assembly on the 24th November by the Member for Surfers Paradise concerning the provision of speech therapy services available to children attending Special Education Development Units (SEDU) throughout Queensland and at Mt Warren Park in particular.

I am responding to individual petitioners advising them as follows:

- This years State funding of \$300 million for students with disabilities will be increased by \$21.6 million next year, and will assist employ an additional 117 teachers.
- Speech language pathologists are allocated to districts on a calendar year basis and that 134 speech language pathology positions were allocated in 2004.
- Education Queensland will employ an additional 2 speech language pathologists in 2005.
- SEDU's are allocated speech language pathology time using an allocative model that takes into account the number of students in the school and the number of students with disabilities.
- In 2004, Mt Warren Park SEDU was allocated 4.5days FTE in terms one to three and 5 days FTE in term four.
- Support in 2005 will be assessed in terms of the allocative model.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this petition.

Yours sincerely

Anna Bligh MP
**Minister for Education and
Minister for the Arts**

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