



The Honourable Rod Welford MP



Queensland
Government

11 JUN 2008

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

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UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE	
No.:	5208T3683
	13 JUN 2008
MP:	Hon R. Welford
Clerk's Signature:	<i>[Signature]</i>

Minister for Education and Training
Minister for the Arts



Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 16 April 2008, attaching a citizen's petition to install air-conditioning in schools. I apologise for the delay in replying.

The Cooler Schools program, which ended last financial year, offered subsidy assistance for the air-conditioning of schools within the Cooler Schools zone.

The original eligibility zone was established in 1996 to provide assistance to state and non-state schools north of Bowen. In 1998, the government extended the zone to include the areas north of latitude 20°, including Gladstone, Biloela and Theodore, and west to the Great Divide.

Extension of the zone was confined to the hottest and most humid areas of Queensland, which tend to be in north and central Queensland. Mudgeeraba Creek State School does not lie within this zone.

Most state schools have ceiling fans in classrooms and are designed to take advantage of prevailing breezes. School principals are encouraged to contact their local facilities account manager for information on possible passive cooling measures that could be considered for their schools.

Schools have benefited from over \$156m to air-condition 3500 classrooms in the Cooler Schools zone since 1998.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, you can contact Mr Alan Bellamywells, acting Project Director, Capital Project Unit by email at alan.bellamywells@deta.qld.gov.au or on telephone (07) 3247 3971.

Yours sincerely

Rod Welford MP

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