

KALUMBURU SCHOOL

1245. Hon SHELLEY ARCHER to the minister representing the Minister for Education and Training:

- (1) Is the state government considering transferring the state school at Kalumburu Aboriginal community to the Catholic education system?
- (2) If yes to (1), what consultation has the Department of Education and Training undertaken with the Kalumburu Council and families of school-aged children in the community?
- (3) Will the Catholic Church construct a new school on existing land that adjoins the Kalumburu community, or is it anticipated that it will lease back the existing school site, thereby removing more land from the local community?
- (4) Is the minister aware that the Kalumburu school has been advised that two positions for next year have been quarantined for Catholic Education teachers?
- (5) What is the state's long-term plan for the existing school site in Kalumburu?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

On behalf of the Minister for Education and Training, I provide the following response.

- (1) No.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) I understand that the Department of Education and Training and the Catholic Education Office are considering a proposal for two Catholic Education Office teachers to be seconded to the Department of Education and Training to work in the school as classroom teachers and to provide religious instruction as a non-compulsory option. The proposal has been initiated by the community and it is intended that this possible arrangement will be discussed further with the community over the next two weeks.
- (5) The existing school site in Kalumburu is limited in size and is at maximum capacity to cater for the current enrolment of about 40 students. In the event that the student enrolment increased significantly, the Department of Education and Training would review the situation.