2.6 MAY 2010

## PUBLIC

## Mrs Lyndal Rowe

## SUBMISSION Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations Effect on Students and Communities

I wish to submit my comments regarding the removal of Year 11 and Year 12 courses at 21 District High Schools across Western Australia.

In particular, I would like to address this proposal and its effect on Dongara District High School.

I'm really stressed and disappointed with this information, as I have just had one of my sons complete year 12 at Dongara District High School, since leaving he has gained an Electrical apprenticeship, and with the commitment of the school and teachers and also my sons commitment to completing high school he was able to achieve this.

My second eldest son on the other hand who is in year 10 at present has learning and behaviour issues and having him in a small country high school I feel is a benefit for him and myself, no need for the worry of organising transport to other schools in being the closest High school is over 60kms away. He struggles as it is and if he's having to go to a different school just for the last 2 years of high school, which I feel is the most important years, he will not cope and will more than likely leave school and not complete his higher school certificate.

We have the teachers and facilities needed for year 11 and 12 and can't see where the benefit will be in removing these.

All I can see is many parents like myself with be devastated, only parents who are wanting their children to go elsewhere would think its a great idea, parents who can afford to pay higher schooling fees, having their children up so early in the morning just to get to school in time, then home late with hardly any time for homework, not being able to take on after school employment, because they won't be home in time. My son enjoys going to his work after school and does very well there, it gives him self confidence which he constantly lacks.

I just totally disagree with this and just hope more parents reply too, raising their concern in the removal of year 11 and 12.

Please keep our higher school available.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Lyndel Rowe