

FREMANTLE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**722. Ms S.F. McGURK to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question. It has been over a year. Does the Premier not think it is time he told parents what he is doing to Fremantle high schools so that those parents and schools can finally have some certainty?

**Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:**

I think the public meeting was in May or June—not that long ago.

**Ms S.F. McGurk:** It is over a year since you announced it in Parliament.

**Mr C.J. BARNETT:** I said over a year ago that we would look at those two areas due to inquiries from parents. I nominated also Armadale as an area that we should look at concerning quality and choice in education, but the public meeting with parents was held probably only six months ago. There will be no change as of next year. Any change such as this takes some time to implement. As I said, I foreshadowed there will be some improvement to the schools if there is an amalgamation. One of the problems is that a couple of schools are too small. To provide a wide curriculum and academic choice with strong vocational programs and the like, we need a school of significant size. Some of the schools, not only those in Fremantle, are too small to do that.