

NEWTON MOORE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAPITAL WORKS

507. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for Education and Training:

The minister recently announced that Newton Moore Senior High School would receive additional funds from the Carpenter government for much sought after capital works. Will the minister please outline to the house the details of these improvements, and is he aware of any other views?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

I thank the member for Collie-Wellington for the question. This government has a very good record of educational improvements in the greater Bunbury region. A range of new schools have been built, and are currently being built, for the rapidly expanding community of Bunbury, in addition to the year 11 and 12 intake being added to Eaton Community College, which was announced by the member for Collie-Wellington and me last week. In addition to that, we have announced, and are currently undertaking, major improvements at Newton Moore Senior High School. I have visited Newton Moore Senior High School four times this year -

Several members interjected.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Wonderful! Four times!

Mr M. McGOWAN: Is it any wonder that the member for Cottesloe is sitting where he is, when he acts like that?

We are currently undertaking a range of major improvements at Newton Moore Senior High School that is valued at \$9.5 million. The member for South West, Hon Adele Farina, and I went to the school some months ago and heard concerns from the parents and citizens association.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M. McGOWAN: The P&C would like to see some additional buildings and equipment put in at the school. We went back to them and we agreed with that request from the P&C. The additional classrooms and additional repairs to the roof will take the expenditure at Newton Moore Senior High School to way above \$10 million. That is the government listening to those concerns and addressing educational issues in Bunbury.

What I am holding here is the “other views”. It is an advertisement from a woman by the name of Nola Marino, the Liberal Party candidate for Forrest, who is replacing the well-known “Forrest Grump”, Hon Geoff Prosser. In this advertisement on 29 August, Nola Marino said -

Nola Marino and the Liberal Party are working to make our community an even better place to live . . . fighting for additional funding to complete the **upgrade of Newton Moore High School**

That advertisement was published one week after we announced the upgrade. One week after we announced it, she puts an ad in the paper claiming that she is fighting for it. I have never heard from her! I never heard from her on the issue, but she is out there fighting for it, a week after we announced the upgrade. That is the federal government all over; jumping on the coat-tails of the actions of the state government, way behind the eight ball. Eighty-five per cent of the capital funding for our state schools comes from the state government; 15 per cent from the commonwealth.