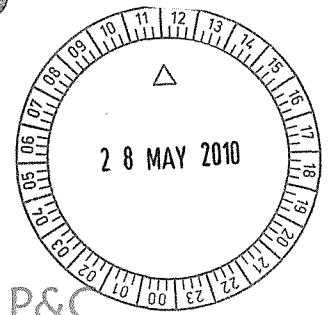


PUBLIC

SOUTHERN CROSS DISTRICT HIGH P&C ASSOCIATION

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25 May 2010

Renae Jewell
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Estimates & Financial Operations Committee
Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Jewell

SUBMISSION – INQUIRY INTO THE REMOVAL OF YEAR 11 & 12 COURSES AT DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS

I refer to the letter received by the Chair of the above Committee, the Hon. Giz Watson MLC, advising Council of the Inquiry being undertaken into the removal of Year 11 & 12 courses from District High Schools throughout Western Australia.

The Committee's Terms of Reference were submitted to the P & C Association at its meeting held on Tuesday, 25 May 2010 to which Association resolved to provide a submission based upon the effects that the decision has on the Southern Cross District High School and the community. The following issues are raised for consideration by the Standing Committee:-

1. Currently there are 7 students attending Years 11 and 12 at the school and it is likely these numbers will continue in future years if the current system is retained. These students have chosen to remain in Southern Cross to continue their education. To relocate them would put them at risk of not furthering their education.
2. The students do not wish to and are not suited to be relocated to a Senior High School for social, educational and financial reasons.
3. We believe that the school has a significant role to play in ensuring that these students have the opportunity to reach their civic and academic potential. To achieve this we wish to recommend that a teacher be appointed to the school to take on the role of educational mentor for the students
4. Reducing student numbers in the school will have a significant impact on its staffing allocation which will impact on the programs that it conducts. Loss of students also has an impact on community activities such as sporting and cultural activities.

The P&C Association does not support the recommendation that the Year 11 and 12 programs cease at the school. The Association believe however that the Years 11 and 12 should be

better resourced at the school level. We would appreciate your consideration of our submission.

Yours sincerely

Lil Harper
President
Southern Cross District High School P&C Association