

From: DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Monday, 21 November 2022 11:44 PM
To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: Online Submission

21/11/2022

MRS Karen Koprivec
ST
NSW

RE: DA2022/1649 - 10 Namona Street NORTH NARRABEEN NSW 2101

Refurbishment of the Dome at Narrabeen North Public School.

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am writing to the council to express my concern of refurbishing the Dome at Narrabeen North Public School. My deep concerns are over the fibrous substance the ceiling is made of and the condition of the floor and walls of the library.

I have been the Teacher/Librarian at Narrabeen North Public school for the past 28 years. I was working in the dome for 20 of these years including one year as a casual teacher/librarian in the dome for the school year of 1989.

The dome has been plagued with occupational Health and safety issues for years, of which previous principals would have reported. The dome has had ongoing plumbing issues, ant infestations, leaking walls and roof skylights, as well constant mould and dust residues on the library books. The major concern has been the fibre the ceiling is constructed with.

I witnessed on numerous occasions the ceiling fibre, falling off the ceiling and landing in the teachers' cups of coffee, on to the seats, floor and all over the books that used to be housed in the dome (as the library). In 1988, the ceiling was sealed. During 1989, the dome was monitored for its air quality. Obviously, it was an Occupational Health and Safety issue that concerned the Department of Education. I have never seen the air being monitored in that building since 1989.

The Dome is not a suitable building to house thousands of expensive educational resources. There is an article titled An Assessment of Preservation Activities in School Libraries (2018) / by The University of Nebraska file:///D:/Assessment%20of%20preservation%20in%20School%20libraries.pdf . The article addresses the issues of book deterioration. Physical agents of deterioration include temperature, relative humidity and light. Chemical agents of deterioration include dust and dirt. The dome contributes to the deterioration of resources.

As well, from the Library Handbook NSW Department of Education /Handbook for School Libraries.

(<https://education.nsw.gov.au/supporting-learning-and-teaching/school-libraries> P.2) states

"The library should provide an environment and atmosphere- Creating a teaching and learning environment that stimulates interest and enthusiasm for learning and creates a flexible teaching and learning environment that provides variety according to class, group or individual needs, supporting Quality Teaching."

The concave Dome walls, entirely eliminates any children's work being displayed. As well, the dome provides an inadequate space to house the Teacher Reference Collection, office space for the two teacher/Librarians and a workroom. The dome also provides poor Wifi connection and limited data points for 30 student-use computers. During the BER program, the principal at the time requested that a new library and three new classrooms be built. He obviously felt our school library (the dome) was inadequate in providing a suitable learning and teaching environment. The plaque outside the new library states-

"National School Pride School -Building Refurbishments- Primary Schools for the 21st Century- New Library."

Our current library does provide a 21st century learning environment. If refurbishment is needed it could be easily extended in order to meet the requirement of an increasing school population.

Considering these important factors, I would like to request an external inspection and analysis of the ceiling and

floor, before any refurbishment is started on the dome. The inspection report should be made available to the school community.

Sincerely

Karen Koprivec

Teacher/Librarian