
Sent: 23/05/2019 12:44:24 PM
Subject: Online Submission

23/05/2019

MR Michael Clark
407 Condamine ST
Allambie NSW 2100
brookvalepublicschool-president@pandcaffiliate.org.au

RE: DA2019/0411 - 2 - 8 Old Pittwater Road BROOKVALE NSW 2100

I am writing as the President of the Brookvale Public School P&C. Our P&C has been engaging on the topic and progress of the proposed Hall for over 12 months.

The initial engagement was advocacy with the Department of Education and the Minister of Education as plans for a Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) had been conflated with plans for the proposed Hall and progress had stalled.

I am pleased that this advocacy saw the COLA project proceed and this was completed in mid 2018. The COLA provides shade immediately outside our main school block over a netball court. This is the primary play area and marshalling area for children at school.

Since that point, the P&C has met at least 12 times (twice per school term). Each meeting has involved a discussion and update on progress of plans.

At meetings the P&C has been shown and debated options for proposed locations. It was the unanimous view of the P&C that the proposed location on the perimeter of the school replacing an old toilet block currently used for storage and three trees was the best possible location.

This discussion considered options including upgrade or replacement of the current hall, demolition and replacement of the current toilet blocks and other locations.

I note a submission by a school parent, Ms Sian Waythe opposing the location of the Hall. Ms Waythe references the views of P&C members. She is not a member of the P&C and has never attended a meeting. As such she is in no position to attempt to reflect the views of this parent body and I frankly reject her assertions on the view of the P&C.

The proposed location is logical for a number of key reasons:

1. It continues to have major buildings around the perimeter of the school grounds allowing for usable open space in the interior.
2. The location places the Hall directly alongside our School Library developed during the Building the School Program by the former Labor Federal Government.
3. The proposed location favoured by Ms Waythe requires demolition of toilet blocks which are less than 6 years old. This position is also problematic in that it would impose a large Hall in the centre of the School grounds which does provide challenges for supervision of students during school hours.

The school community has been informed of progress through updates in our School newsletter either in columns penned by the School Principal, Ms Bev Maunder, or by columns penned by myself with updates from P&C Meetings.

On Tuesday 21 May, the P&C met again and discussed and endorsed the Development Application and location chosen. It is the unanimous view of the P&C that this Development Application should proceed to create a new School Hall for Brookvale Public School.