

The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC
Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning
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10 February 2020

Dear Minister,

I write in relation to the future of Hurlstone Agricultural High School (HAHS). I am delighted the Liberal Government has reversed its appalling decision to relocate the school to Hawkesbury and I look forward to Hurlstone continuing its proud tradition at Glenfield.

I recently met with HAHS Principal Christine Castle, Glenfield Network Director Educational Leadership Daryl Currie and other concerned stakeholders on site to get a better understanding of the school's needs moving forward.

I understand from my December meeting with your Chief of Staff that the dairy is to be retained at Glenfield. I would like clarification on whether the dairy is to be a full working dairy and the Department's definition of what a full working dairy entails, including the number and size of required paddocks and animals to be located on the school site.

It is essential the planned upgrades at Hurlstone, and the masterplan for the adjoining subdivision, take into account the agricultural and farming needs of the school, including a full working dairy. I strongly urge the Department to liaise closely with the school on the exact requirements to ensure the sustainable agricultural operation of Hurlstone.

My site visit made it clear to me that the school's boarding facilities are in desperate need of an upgrade. It is imperative that the upgrade of the facilities at Hurlstone meet health and safety regulations to ensure the well-being of students.

I would also like to reiterate my comments made to your Chief of Staff at our December meeting: it is crucial to leave extensive green open space around the hilltop schools of Ajuga, Campbell House and Glenfield Park.

The students at these schools have special needs and the green vista is crucial to their schooling and overall well-being.

I look forward to your advice on the matters raised above.

Yours sincerely,

Anoulack Chanthivong MP
Member for Macquarie Fields

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