

**Question on Notice**

**No. 1100**

**Asked on 9 June 2006**

**Mr Knuth** asked the Minister for Education and the Arts (Mr Welford) -

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the recent instruction issued to students of the Alpha State School that they will no longer be allowed to leave the school grounds to purchase lunches at a nearby local business, a practice which has been in place for the last 40 years without any incident whatsoever and despite the fact that students have permission to do so from their parents—

In view of the petition initiated by 287 local signatories and the fact that Alpha is a small rural community, will he be understanding and overturn this decision which was apparently made on the mistaken assumption that this practice exposed students to danger?

**ANSWER:**

The principal's decision to no longer issue lunch passes to students is in accordance with Educational Queensland's current "Advice on Leaving School Grounds".

The decision was made in full consultation with the school's Parents and Citizens Association, with notice of one month given to the school and broader community prior to implementation.