Question on Notice No. 961 Asked on 6 June 2006

MR LAWLOR asked the Minister for Education and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) -

QUESTION:

How is the school asbestos roof replacement program progressing in the Southport Electorate?

ANSWER:

I am pleased to advise the member that Musgrave Hill State School will have its two asbestos roofs replaced in this current round of the Beattie Government's \$120 million Asbestos Roof Replacement Program (ARRP).

A tender has been called for the work which is expected to be undertaken before the end of November this year and the exact time for the replacement work will be determined after the tender has been awarded and discussions have been held with the school Principal.

Once this work is done, only one asbestos roof at the Southport State High School will remain to be replaced in the electorate, and this work is being scheduled for the summer school holidays.

This will complete the replacement of all asbestos school roofs in the Southport electorate – and that's great news for teachers, parents and students.

At the end of June 2006, more than 300 asbestos roofs in Queensland state schools have been replaced under the Asbestos Roof Replacement Program.

In the five months between July and the start of the summer school holidays this year, we are aiming to replace a further 177 asbestos roofs in state schools. This will take the program past the half way mark – an outstanding effort and a credit to all involved.

However, to achieve this outcome, we are relying on continuing fine weather and the availability of skilled tradesmen.