Question on Notice

No. 1018

Asked on 5 June 2008

Mr Lingard asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) —

QUESTION: With reference to State schools in the Beaudesert Electorate -

- (1) Which State schools are under consideration for mothballing and/or closure?
- (2) What maintenance work is planned to be undertaken?
- (3) Of the schools that have been closed and remain the property of Education Queensland, has any decision been made to dispose of these buildings and, if so, to whom?

ANSWER:

- (1) At the end of 2007, my Department mothballed Laravale State School in the Beaudesert Electorate after monitoring the student population when it had dropped as low as nine students. On 5 June 2008, I approved the closure and disposal of Laravale State School.
- (2) The Department of Education, Training and the Arts' policy regarding mothballed and closed schools is that they be maintained in a safe condition compliant with statutory requirements.
- (3) Laravale State School has been declared surplus to departmental needs.

 Government land disposals occur in line with our Government's land policies, which first affords the opportunity to other state agencies and then local authorities to purchase sites for community infrastructure before they are offered for public sale.