



The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education

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COR 1941345

Cr Lara Carli
Mayor
City of Melton
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Dear Cr Carli

Thank you for your correspondence dated 13 December 2019 regarding Melton City Council's Advocacy Priorities for the 2020-21 State Budget. The Andrews Labor Government has been proud to support the Melton region's educational needs since coming to office. The following is a brief outline of some of the major investments we have made to provision for the municipality's projected population growth.

\$54.7 million for the construction of new schools, including:

- \$35.3 million to build Springside West Secondary College
- an initial \$13.8 million to build Burnside Primary School, with a further \$5.6 million later provided for construction costs for additional facilities.

\$26.6 million for upgrades and improvements to existing schools, including:

- \$5.4 million to upgrade Melton Specialist School
- \$2.5 million to upgrade Melton Secondary College
- \$1 million to refurbish classrooms and facilities at Kurunjang Primary School, as well as \$2.4 million to build a community hub at the school as part of the \$50 million Shared Facilities Fund
- \$2 million for refurbishments at Catholic Regional College Melton
- \$730,000 to build four new classrooms at St Anthony's School in Melton South
- \$997,500 for upgrades at Gilson College, Taylors Hill
- \$500,000 to build a performing arts facility at Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs
- \$151,000 for refurbishments at Diggers Rest Primary School
- funding for new classrooms at Melton West Primary School to help address enrolment pressures created by the municipality's expanding population.

\$604,500 to support students with special needs through the Inclusive Schools Fund, including:

- \$200,000 for a sensory garden at Arnolds Creek Primary School
- \$200,000 to build an outdoor sensory area at Melton Specialist School
- \$181,500 to build engaging nature-based outside learning stations at Diggers Rest Primary School
- \$23,000 to create inclusive learning spaces at Rockbank Primary School.

\$1.68 million for early childhood education, including:

- \$790,000 to build Aintree Children's and Community Hub, an integrated children's centre
- \$350,000 to upgrade early learning facilities at Diggers Rest Kindergarten
- \$539,573 to upgrade early learning facilities at Al Iman College, Melton South.

Work is continuing to ensure that Melton is equipped with the sufficient workforce and facilities for the roll-out of Three-year-old kinder in the municipality in 2022.

Additionally, the following projects are either in the planning or construction stage:

- new primary schools planned for Melton South, Eynesbury, Deanside and Rockbank North
- a new secondary school planned for Cobblebank
- \$6.2 million to upgrade Exford Primary School
- \$6.4 million to upgrade Melton West Primary School
- \$4.7 million to build a new school hall at St Anthony's School in Melton South
- \$1.6 million to support Melton City Council to build Fraser Rise Children's and Community Hub
- \$1.7 million to build a new kindergarten in Eynesbury
- \$650,000 to build a new early learning centre at Gilson College, Taylors Hill
- \$650,000 to plan upgrades to Staughton College.

Further detail about these projects can be found on the Victorian School Building Authority website: www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au.

As you are aware, we are presently working through the 2020-21 budget process, with the budget to be tabled on Tuesday, 5 May 2020.

If you would like further information, please contact James Fletcher, Acting Executive Director, Budget Strategy and Funding Reform Division, Department of Education and Training, on (03) 7022 1362 or by email: fletcher.james.i@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



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10.2.20