



Anna Bligh MP



File - Lynch
matters

**Queensland
Government**

Minister for Education

29 JAN 2003

Mr Howard Stack
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Brisbane Grammar School
Gregory Terrace
BRISBANE Q 4000

Dear Mr Stack

Thank you for your letter of 10 December 2002 in which you foreshadow the intention of the Brisbane Grammar School to borrow \$2m to fund settlements being negotiated with some 65 former students who have lodged claims against the school as a result of the alleged misconduct of a former school counsellor, Mr Kevin Lynch. I sincerely apologise for the delay in replying to you.

I note also the Bursar's letter to the Department of even date (copy attached to your correspondence) in which Mr Tyrrell notified the Department that the Board of Trustees has now formally resolved to seek to borrow this sum.

As Mr Tyrrell has mentioned in his letter, the purpose of the proposed borrowing is outside the usual scope of the Department's *Guidelines for the Administration of the Grammar Schools Borrowing Program*. Borrowings are normally approved to assist in the funding of capital works to enhance the educational services provided to students.

At the same time, I recognise that Brisbane Grammar School is faced with an exceptional set of circumstances with these claims and that special measures may need to be taken by the school to meet its legal obligations.

In view of this, I believe that your suggestion of a meeting to discuss the proposal is appropriate. I think there would be virtue in the meeting taking place as soon as practicable. If a further meeting is required when the school's final liability is ascertained, this could be arranged then. You may wish to have Mr Tyrrell accompany you to the meeting.

Please contact my personal assistant, Ms Dana Jackson, on telephone (07) 3237 0028, to make the necessary arrangements.

I invite you to contact Dr Robert Kidston, Principal Advisor, External Portfolio Relations on telephone (07) 3239 0257 if you have any matters you wish to discuss prior to the meeting.

Yours sincerely


Anna Bligh MP
Minister for Education

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