

# NSW Catholic Block Grant Authority

Administering the Australian Government Capital Grants Program, National Secondary Schools Computer Fund, Trade Training Centres Program, Building the Education Revolution Program (Primary Schools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Science & Language Centres for Secondary Schools, National School Pride Program)

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# SUMMARY BER STATISTICS, NSW CATHOLIC SECTOR

# **Primary Schools, P21 Projects**

- 732 projects approved in 445 primary, special and mixed (central) schools.
- All projects (with the exception of one special case) were in post-design commencement phase by end of 2009 (design, council approvals, preparation of building contracts).
- At end of April 2010, 434 projects, 60% were under construction on site.
- 52 projects were fully completed by end of April 2010.
- The rate of construction starts has increased on an exponential scale.
- Estimated 8-10 trade positions created for each of the 732 projects.
- Estimated 8,700 FTE trade positions created by end of April 2010.
- 105 schools (near 25% to date) have released a portion (significant in some cases)
   of their notional funding to other schools in the Catholic system.
- 4 schools expected either to close or amalgamate with other schools in the near future were not funded. One school considered it had sufficient buildings of modern standard and 'donated' its full allocation to other schools under the CBGA.
- The Catholic sector can identify 144 prime building contractors for BER projects.
- Each of those contractors will have employed local sub-contractors.
- 80 architectural/project management firms have been engaged on projects.
- 128 projects (17%) have had their development applications assessed and approved by the *NSW Nation Building and Jobs Plan Taskforce*. The vast majority of projects have had normal local council assessment.

#### **National School Pride Program**

- 1,111 projects in 583 primary and secondary schools.
- School funded up to \$200,000; grants varied by school size.
- Program 97% completed. Some acquittals to be finalised with schools.

## Science and Language Centres, Secondary Schools

- 29 projects approved in NSW Catholic schools.
- All at post-design stage, 18 under full construction.
- All projects to be completed by the end of 2010.

### **Other Capital Programs**

The NSW CBGA is an experienced manager of capital projects. In addition to BER it manages the:

- General Capital Grants Program
- Digital Education Revolution Program (Computers in Schools)
- Trade Training Centres Program
- Indigenous Boarding Infrastructure Program

William Walsh CBGA Executive Officer 18 May 2010