

Dear Shona

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

I am representing Annangrove Public School regarding several concerns on issues pertaining to the Building Education Revolution.

Annangrove was granted a Commonwealth Budget of \$850 000.00 for the construction of a State Of the Art Library. (We asked for a much needed hall though we were declined) In the breakdown of the budget provided for the building itself is listed at \$ 295 625.00. The landscaping that was done was minimal, though cost \$52 205.00. On completion we received 800 mm wide garden beds along the outer boundaries of the building with small shrubs approx 1 meter apart with mulch on top. These gardens were later removed due to the fact they were deemed a fire hazard! A path which consists of a concrete slab, 1200 x 900 mm at the entrance of the demountable. This seems to be an exorbitant amount for simple garden beds and small entrance. This amount could have redone the entire school gardens with borders, mature plants and irrigation. Please refer to funding plan.

There are also charges for roads that don't exist, walkways that don't exist, and many other debatable amounts that don't make any sense at all. In the funding budget there is also a surplus of \$41 849.00 Where is this to be allocated as we also have dilapidated toilets in our only toilet block, in need of severe attention.

Where is this? Our canteen is falling apart and now in need of major repairs. Only half of this surplus would provide the funds for dire repairs to come up to health dept standards.

Our needs were not appropriately considered or managed, which has ended up a very expensive exercise and waste of tax payers money, with very little outcome.

Our new State of the art library does not include air conditioning! We are told this demountable is insulated and will not require more than fans. I put a thermometer under the door this 2010 summer and it was 38 degrees in the room. It was explained to me it was designed to be a self cooling structure. It sounds good in theory but does not aspire to this in the extremities of heat we have in this area. It is a major concern for complaint for all parents' teachers and the wider community to see our children suffer in unbearable heat and still try to achieve their learning goals. This is almost a third world country approach to educating our children. On the next 38 to 40 degree day, Parliament should hold council in this demountable to see if they feel this is an appropriate leaning environment for the children.

We have had continual communication via email with Angus Dawson from the Education Department addressing these issues. See attached correspondence with all raised questions.

Mr. Dawson's response to these was ill explained and included out of date data only to 2005 and not at all prevalent to today's climate changes.

We have included the current figures on temperatures in Annangrove provided by the Government Bureau of Meteorology for the Annangrove area which clearly shows temperatures way above average to comply with the regulations for air conditioning. This should be an automatic decision to air condition this demountable as it falls well within the education departments criteria.

This demountable is temporally redundant at this point as the Teachers P & C, parents and children will remain in areas that are of suitable conditions for their well being, and optimal learning conditions. Attached are the figures from the Bureau of Meteorology with the current data.

This community spirited little school in Annangrove has endured a life time with no Hall and the minimum of necessities. The Children and Teachers have to move sixty odd chairs and tables each week to hold their assembly this is really unacceptable to expect little children to be moving such weighty furniture and well against OH&S regulations. This is dangerous and time consuming.. The Parents P&C teachers and community alike have put in endless time, fund raising, efforts to provide in areas that are needed for the school and not covered by the Government.

We should be looking forward to a positive 2010 for this struggling little school, though as usual we are faced with continuing battles to keep on board what other schools think to be normal, yet we would feel privileged to have.

We at Annangrove Public school, Parents, Teachers, Principal, P & C and the wider community implore you to hear us, and give us the opportunity to improve our school into 2010 and beyond, and receive the value for money that was promised through the BER programme to provide a comfortable and dedicated learning environment for our children.

Please find attached relevant documentation pertaining to our BER submission.

Yours Sincerely

Donna Hunter

P & C President Annangrove Public School

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Annangrove public School is a little school with Big Dreams. The Building Education Revolution was going to make one of them come true. A School Hall.

Unfortunately with a budget of \$850000.00 we were not allowed a hall, and got a MDR library.

This library according to Angus Dawson, does not need an air-conditioner as its turbo ventilation (holes in the building) will combat 30 to 40 degree days with 60 children and their teachers. It will provide optimum cooling and heating.

He quoted to us that the mean maximum temperature for Annangrove was 28.5 degrees. This he said was for the years 1985 to 2005.

After further enquiry to the bureau of meteorology for current data to 2009 our School in Annangrove has a mean maximum temp of over 30 degrees, which fits the criteria for an air-conditioned building.

In winter it is not uncommon for Annangrove to hit temperatures below zero This state of the art building has supplied us with gas heating outlets, only problem is Annangrove does not have a gas facility.

So our new library still sits redundant with NO Reverse Cycle Air-conditioned, NO emergency exit and limited power outlets to set up anything of much use.

The community and parents are outraged at the lack of thought and wasted money that could have done so much more, and was really NEEDED..

Annangrove with a budget of that magnitude could have renovated the whole school including the dire need to fix the most basic of needs, the toilets.

So I invite anyone from the state government to come out to see me and show me the value for money it promised us with the Building Education Revolution.

Donna Hunter

P & C President Annangrove Public School

(Article in local magazine)

Hi Donna.

Thank you for this email. I have asked our team to give me some advice on this by next Wednesday.

Regards,

Angus

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**From:** Mick & Donna Hunter

**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 April 2010 2:32 PM

**To:** Dawson, Angus

**Subject:** Fw: Annangrove Public School

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Mick & Donna Hunter

**To:** Angus Dawson

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2010 1:39 PM

**Subject:** Annangrove Public School

Dear Angus

Thank You for returning my call yesterday. This year is already flying by and we wish to have this matter resolved so that the children and teachers can utilize the new Library.

Please find attached the current statistics from the Bureau of Meteorology.

These current figures clearly show that the mean temperature in Annangrove is over 30 degrees. In your email dated the 23rd of November to Principal Paddy Rich you stated that schools with a mean max temp over 30 are air cooled.

We appreciate that these buildings are insulated, although we have extreme heat in this area and it is hard to comprehend that on a 40 degree day with 50 Children in the one room and teachers that it would be a comfortable learning environment. Most days this 2009/2010 Summer have been well up in the late 30 to 40 degrees and even the rooms that have air-conditioning struggled to remain cool.

Our winters here are of the same extremities we often fall below zero in the area and the day does not thaw out till after lunch.

With this environment in mind we would appreciate your consideration for a reverse cycle air-conditioned library. After much research we have found that this option is the most cost effective and practical for our situation.

Records show electric heaters are more expensive to run and less efficient over a large area.

The P&C, teachers, parents and the community are all excited to access our new facility though we have not taken hand over at this point.

I await your reply with a hopeful and positive out come to move Annangrove Public School into the 21st century with a modern and comfortable learning environment to provide for our children.

Please contact me anytime if you wish to discuss this matter futher.

Kind Regards

Donna Hunter

P & C President Annangrove Public School

Dear Donna.

Thanks for your email.

I asked our team to look into the data you provided.

My email to Paddy Rich 23 November 2009 said, in part;

*"The provision of air cooling is determined by the mean maximum temperature in January for each school in the state. This has been determined by averaging the temperatures over the years 1985 to 2005. The mean maximum temperature for your school is 28.5 degrees. Generally schools which have a mean maximum temperature of over 30 degrees are air cooled. In addition to the mean maximum temperature, schools are also rated for their position in a heat stress zone. This takes account of schools with severe humidity or other heat stress factors. The stress factors range from 1 for high stress to 8 with low stress. Annangrove is rated as 8 indicating low heat stress."*

As it says there, the average mean maximum temperature in January for 20 years from 1985 to 2005 was used. In Annangrove, this was 28.5 degrees.

In the data you sent to me, showing January average temperatures over the 16 years 1994 to 2009 the **maximum** was 32.2 degrees.

We have assessed each school in NSW on the same data that is averages over the 20 years between 1985 and 2005. I do not anticipate this benchmark will change during the BER program.

Modular Design Range buildings such as your new building, include important sustainable design features such as passive cooling technologies that maximise cross ventilation and insulation in all walls and ceilings. The buildings are also sited to minimise sun exposure. These measures mean that electrical cooling, such as reverse cycle air-conditioners, are not required outside heat stress zones. The demountable building your new building is replacing does not have these features which are why demountables are sometimes air conditioned.

Regards,

Angus

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**From:** Mick & Donna Hunter

**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 April 2010 2:32 PM

**To:** Dawson, Angus

**Subject:** Fw: Annangrove Public School

**RE: air conditioning**

Rich, Patrick

**Sent:** Sunday, 29 November 2009 1:39 PM

**To:** Dawson, Angus

Angus, thank you for the break down of the \$52 000. I still have some questions of how the money has been spent.

1. \$2500 for roads??? No work has been carried out on our entry road? Please explain.
2. \$2622 Boundary and retaining structures?? As far as I know we had another company constructing our boundary fence. Please explain
3. \$ 5344 Environmental controls??? Please explain
4. \$8100 demolition of footings. We had 6 footings from our demountable toilet block. Most of these were bricks sitting on each other. Wouldn't this cost be covered in excavation of the site??
5. \$1320 and \$2582. I have existing paths and walkways near the site. Surely we could save money here. Surely with the amounts mentioned above we could surely save enough money to purchase two air conditioning units???

After looking more closely at the ECS document you sent me on 22/10/09 my P&C and I would like a complete breakdown of all areas of costings. If the construction and transportation of the building costs a combined total of \$429 008 we would like a specific breakdown of all other areas as soon as possible. What is MC Margin??

Where has the surplus of \$41,849 gone? Please be specific

I had the understanding that there was/is a 5% contingency for our school? Where is it?

Thanks for your help. Paddy Rich

**Paddy Rich**  
Principal  
Annangrove Public School

**From:** Dawson, Angus

**Sent:** Monday, 23 November 2009 4:28 PM

**To:** Rich, Patrick

**Cc:** Zavolokin, John; Peelgrane, Pam; Burgmann, Lucy

**Subject:** RE: air conditioning

Dear Paddy

I refer to your email of 20 November 2009 regarding air conditioning and heating for your new MDR library. I understand that you have had a number of conversations with Joe Mollica, Cliff Hoey and Pam Peelgrane, Principal Liaison Officers in the BER Integrated Program Office regarding your new building.

As you are aware, the Commonwealth Government's guidelines for Building the Education Revolution require all buildings to "incorporate sustainable building principles to help reduce any impact on the natural environment".

The MDRs are not "tin sheds". They are specifically designed for airflow and ventilation. They are constructed to the same Environmentally Sustainable Development standards as CDRs, with the same thickness of wall. They are insulated, have cross ventilation and turbo vents and are oriented on site for optimum cooling and heating. They have fans and operable windows and clerestory windows for ventilation. I would urge you to check with other principals who have had MDRs built at their schools regarding their satisfaction with the building.

The provision of air cooling is determined by the mean maximum temperature in January for each

school in the state. This has been determined by averaging the temperatures over the years 1985 to 2005. The mean maximum temperature for your school is 28.5 degrees. Generally schools which have a mean maximum temperature of over 30 degrees are air cooled. In addition to the mean maximum temperature, schools are also rated for their position in a heat stress zone. This takes account of schools with severe humidity or other heat stress factors. The stress factors range from 1 for high stress to 8 with low stress. Annangrove is rated as 8 indicating low heat stress.

I have asked for a breakdown of the \$52,205 allocated to your school's project which you mentioned in your email. This is for site works including paths, walkways and landscaping and is broken down as follows:

Site preparation - \$5,996  
Excavation/stripping the top soil - \$7,224  
Upfilling site - \$2,500  
Demolition of footings - \$8,100  
Environmental controls - \$5,344  
Tree removal/root grubbing/remediate - \$2,640  
Boundary and retaining structures - \$2,622  
Fencing and gates (temporary and permanent) - \$5,097  
Landscaping - \$6,220  
Walkways - \$1,320  
Roads - \$2,500  
Footpaths - \$2,582

Very little of the total sum is available to be diverted.

As MDRs are factory produced, fittings such as for the provision of gas heating outlets are included for each building produced. I will ask the Regional Program Director to examine with you the provision of heating for your building.

Regards,

Angus

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**From:** Rich, Patrick  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 November 2009 4:23 PM  
**To:** Dawson, Angus  
**Subject:** air conditioning

Hello Angus, I now have my library on site and was told by Peter Karavelatzis (site manager) that the new building will not be air conditioned. Over the last couple of weeks the temperatures have been in the high 30s and low 40s. To expect teachers, parents and students to work in a tin shed without any air conditioning is quite ridiculous especially when you have quoted \$52,205 for paths, walls and landscaping. You seem to have allocated so much money to other non essential items and forgot about the real ones. Our library has come with fitted gas outlets, but we do not have gas. One model does not fit all. Please reply as soon as possible as I have a parent meeting early next week. Thanks Paddy Rich

**Paddy Rich**  
Principal  
Annangrove Public School



**RE: air conditioning**

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The provision of air cooling is determined by the mean maximum temperature in January for each



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## Monthly mean maximum temperature RICHMOND RAAF

Site name: RICHMOND RAAF Site number: 67105 Commenced: 1993  
 Latitude: 33.60° S Longitude: 150.78° E Elevation: 19 m Operational status: Open

Key: Units are degrees Celsius. 12.3 = Not quality controlled.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
1993										26.7	26.7	29.2	
1994	32.2	30.2	24.7	24.9	21.1	17.7	17.7	19.5	22.7	25.3	28.0	29.2	24.4
1995	26.9	28.2	26.1	23.1	20.3	17.8	17.4	22.8	20.9	25.0	26.1	26.0	23.4
1996	27.4	27.4	26.3	24.4	20.8	18.2	17.1	19.8	23.2	24.6	26.1	28.1	23.6
1997	27.9	29.0	27.4	26.0	21.1	18.4	17.1	19.9	20.9	25.8	29.1	31.1	24.5
1998	31.2	31.9	30.3	24.6	20.3	17.6	15.9	18.0	22.2	24.9	23.5	28.8	24.1
1999	30.5	27.2	26.9	22.0	21.0	17.5	17.2	19.3	21.9	23.8	23.9	26.1	23.1
2000	26.5	30.7	26.5	22.9	19.7	17.1	17.9	18.8	24.3	24.0	24.6	29.6	23.6
2001	31.2	29.1	25.7	24.0	19.3	19.1	17.0	18.7	22.1	24.2	25.9	30.2	23.9
2002	30.2	26.5	26.9	25.1	20.2	18.3	18.4	20.5	24.4	27.9	30.3	29.6	24.9
2003	32.0	29.5	26.0	23.2	20.8	19.3	17.5	19.3	23.0	23.0	26.3	27.9	24.0
2004	31.4	31.6	27.0	25.2	21.6	20.1	18.3	20.6	23.4	24.9	27.1	28.1	24.9
2005	30.6	29.8	25.8	25.9	21.3	18.9	18.8	20.4	22.2	25.7	26.0	32.2	24.8
2006	29.3	30.7	28.2	24.9	20.5	16.5	17.2	19.4	23.4	26.3	28.2	28.3	24.4
2007	31.6	28.6	27.0	22.5	21.4	14.8	17.0	20.3	21.8	27.4	25.4	26.4	23.7
2008	28.4	25.6	26.7	21.3	20.5	18.4	17.0	17.5	22.2	24.6	24.5	27.1	22.8
2009	32.0	29.0	27.4	22.7	20.3	17.8	17.9	21.3	23.9	23.2			

### Summary statistics for all years

Statistic	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Lowest	26.5	25.6	24.7	21.3	19.3	14.8	15.9	17.5	20.9	23.0	23.5	26.0	22.8
Highest	32.2	31.9	30.3	26.0	21.6	20.1	18.8	22.8	24.4	27.9	30.3	32.2	24.9

Product Code: IDCJAC0062 reference: 00767296

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**Building the Education Revolution  
P21 Program**

Region	Northern Sydney	MC	BLL
School ID	3719	MC Fee	8.76%
School Name	Annagrove Public School	Cost status	ECS
Round	1		
Commonwealth Budget	850,000		

<b>BUDGET</b>		<b>850,000</b>
<b>COMMONWEALTH BUDGET</b>		
IPO MANAGEMENT	1.3%	11,050
CONTINGENCY	5%	42,500
INCENTIVE allocation	1.49%	12,500
NETWORK/SUBSTATION Pool allocation	L	50,000
		<b>733,950</b>
GST	10%	73,395
<b>Balance funding available for project</b>		<b>807,345</b>
<b>BRIEFED PROJECTS</b>		
Project 1	MDR Library Core 7	807,345
<b>COST ESTIMATES:</b>		
<b>Project 1 : MDR Library Core 7</b>		
MC Margin	3.21%	11,033
Design, Documentation, Preliminaries and Data Capture		62,358
Construction		133,383
Building		52,205
Site works (paths, walls, landscape etc)		69,899
Site services (stormwater, water, power etc)		25,856
Contingency	8.1%	295,625
MDR Supply cost		19,075
MC Supervision and Program Management	5.55%	26,470
MC MDR Co-ordination Fee		69,590
GST	10%	765,495
<b>SCHOOL SUMMARY</b>		
<b>TOTAL COST</b>		<b>765,495</b>
<b>Surplus/(Shortfall = FUNDING REQUIREMENT)</b>		<b>41,849</b>

*Bulletin.*

Annagrove public school.