

Standing Committee on Education,
Training and Youth Affairs,
GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601

CLOSURE OF THE FLYNN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The closure of the Flynn Primary School represents a serious loss to the Flynn community. It is (was) the only community building in the suburb. It has been the centre of community interaction and engagement involving not only students and parents but the broader community through events such as school performances and fetes and other functions organised by active and community conscientious P&C committees over the years. The establishment of an integrated Pre-school and Primary School (and earlier a child health community centre) in the suburb was an integral part of the design of the suburb. The Flynn Primary School – a design by award-winning architect Enrico Taglietti – is a symbol of the Flynn suburb.

I have been disappointed by the community consultation process both before the closure of the school and subsequently. I, like many others in the Flynn community, could not reconcile the growing number of pre-schoolers enrolled in the Flynn Preschool and increasing number of young families in the suburb with the stated likely low future intake at the Primary School. The consultation process run conveyed the impression more of going through a set process than genuinely engaging and exploring real options for the school.

I hope that the Standing Committee will recognise the important unique position of the Flynn Primary School in the Flynn Community.