



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

---

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION  
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA (Chair), Mr Jonathan Davis MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Mr Peter Cain MLA

## Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into the management of ACT school infrastructure

**Submission Number: 6**

**Date Authorised for Publication: 4 May 2021**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [LA Committee - ECI](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to the Inquiry into the management of ACT school infrastructure  
**Date:** Saturday, 1 May 2021 12:53:28 PM

---

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Committee members,

The Campbell High Parents and Citizens Association welcomes the inquiry into the management of ACT school infrastructure.

The quality of school buildings is consistently rated as one of the areas of most concern by both students and parents in annual school surveys. The majority of concerns relate simply to the challenges of managing aging infrastructure but also to limitations in adapting old school infrastructure to meet new and emerging needs of students and teachers.

Feedback from school administrators indicates they are well supported with regards to managing hazardous substances with the main issue being the additional safety (and cost) implications of appropriately managing the numerous hazards in the school.

The majority of buildings at Campbell High are old and need considerable maintenance. Our main concerns are the length of time it can take from identifying the need for works to having the funds to undertake them. Our old buildings are also at risk of unexpected issues, for example flooding in the hall kept it out of action for well over a year, causing significant disruption to the school community. Another example is the toilet facilities, with only one block of toilets, which are old and prone to maintenance problems. Many of our student community have indicated they find them so unpleasant they simply don't go to the toilet at school.

Fortunately, Campbell High does not currently have major capacity issues but with significant re-development within our priority enrolment area and many of our feeder primary schools experiencing capacity issues, there are concerns about what the future will bring. Nonetheless, there are signs of capacity issues, for example our bike storage facilities are overflowing and inside areas get very cramped during cold and wet weather.

With regards to things like environmental sustainability, classroom design and accessibility for students and staff with disability issues it is again an issue of the need to retrofit old buildings, which can be a costly and lengthy process. These will only get more challenging as the school community grows and the buildings continue to age.

On the positive side, we have spacious grounds, access to Mount Ainslie and access to Reid Oval when additional outdoor space is needed. We also have a good relationship with the Australian War Memorial and in addition to our educational programs with the Memorial we sometimes use their beautiful grounds and can access their carparks for after school events.

In conclusion, the P&C appreciates the challenges facing both the school administration and Education Directorate in maintaining the school, investing in new facilities and equipment with limited budgets. The best outcomes will be achieved by clear, transparent processes to prioritise investment across the ACT, including ways to ensure the views of students and staff

are considered.

Yours Sincerely

Trudy Green

Acting President

Campbell High Parents and Citizens Association