



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

06 AUG 2012

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Mr Victor Braun
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Dear Mr Braun

Thank you for your letter dated 22 June 2012 regarding assessment processes in Queensland senior mathematics and science syllabuses.

I share your desire to ensure that Queensland secondary students receive a strong mathematics and science education. High level skills in these areas are an essential foundation for a strong, four pillar Queensland economy.

As a practising mathematics and science teacher, you would be familiar with Queensland's system of standards-based education in which student achievement is reported on a five point scale based on standards descriptors. It is my understanding teachers are still able to use letters or numbers in marking student responses, so long as these measures relate back to the standard descriptors in the syllabus document.

I acknowledge your concern regarding student and teacher workloads and the use of written assignments. I am considering options to review a number of areas within the education portfolio, including functions undertaken by the Queensland Standards Authority. Your views will be taken into account as part of this process.

I note that you have also sent a copy of your letter and petition to the Honourable Campbell Newman MP, Premier. A copy of my response has been provided to the Premier for his information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Ms Gabrielle Sinclair, Assistant Director-General, Strategic Policy and Research on telephone 3237 1327 or by email at gabrielle.sinclair@deta.qld.gov.au.

Thank you for bringing these matters to my attention.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

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