

Dear P&C President and Committee,

The Queensland Government announced in mid-February that they are planning to contract out all cleaning and maintenance services in state schools about to be built in Queensland. This kind of contracting out could soon affect our school as well if the government continues on this path.

We are very concerned that this kind of outsourcing will lead to lower standards of cleaning, maintenance and grounds care. The experience in other states where this has occurred has been so bad that in Western Australia, for example, they are reversing the changes now at significant cost to the state government.

We are proud of our schools and our school communities. We think Queensland's kids deserve learning environments that are clean and safe.

We know that private contracting leads to dirty, unsafe schools – and that is not what we want to happen here, and we thought you should know more about these plans before there is any option to discuss this with our government.

We are fighting this initiative because we want to do the best possible job – and we can't do that if the state government forces us onto private contracts.

The reason why we are writing to you is to inform you of these plans, give you the attached brochure on what contracting out under this model could mean and to ask for your support to stop the outsourcing and to save standards in our school.

We have a form letter/ postcard to present to this meeting that we are asking you to send to our local Member of Parliament/ Treasurer/ Minister for Education to assist with our request.

If you have any questions about this letter or our campaign to keep our schools as public services please call our union office on 1800065885 (LHMU) or 1800 177 244 (QPSU).

Thank you very much for your support on this issue. We hope to continue working with you to make this school a safe, happy and productive one for all the students.

Yours Sincerely,

School Staff