



Petition

Registration No.	40
Title	APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH BANIYALA SCHOOL
Presented on	12 August 2010
Presented by	Ms Anderson
Referred to	Education (Dr Burns)
Date referred	12 August 2010
Response due	25 November 2010
Response received	3 December 2010
Response presented	3 December 2010 (after Ministerial Statement)

Petition 40

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY:**

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

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YOUR PETIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY THAT:

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AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IS DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

Signature: *Djambawa Marawili A M*

Djambawa Marawili AM – Senior Elder and Traditional Owner.



Response

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- The ongoing communication between my department, the NTCSA and Banyala community leaders;
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I have enclosed a copy of the letter of response to the petitioners.



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Kathy Marawili
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Dear Kathy

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At the time of compiling this response, no additional documentation had been forthcoming from NTCSA to complete the application requirements.

With regard to the petition stating that no reply was received to a letter from Djamabawa Marawili to myself on 1 June 2010 I can advise that the response was sent on 12 August 2010.

Finally, with regard to the request for DET to approve the application by 30 September 2010 so that NTCSA could take over the operation of the school on 1 January 2011, I can advise as follows.

Assessment of completed applications is undertaken by a Registration Assessment Panel comprised of nominated members of the schooling sectors. The recommendations of the panel are considered and approved by the Chief Executive, DET as the accountable officer. If the Chief Executive's decision is not favourable, then the applicant may, in writing, apply to me, as Minister, for a review of the decision. However, I am not involved in the application process itself. The appeals process is completed through the Non-Government Schools Ministerial Advisory Council.

As stated above, the application by NTCSA for Baniyala Christian School remains incomplete and would need to be re-submitted in a complete form. The application received was also based on the premise of NTCSA taking over Baniyala Homeland Learning Centre and converting it to a full status school.

Baniyala Garrangali School was formally gazetted as a stand-alone government school on 1 February 2010. This formality followed an intensive period of planning over the period 2007-2008 and over \$3 million investment in infrastructure which was completed and handed over in December 2009.

I am advised that the Chief Executive, DET and the Chief Executive Officer, NTCSA met on 5 July 2010 to discuss the possibility of joint provisioning arrangements in relation to religious instruction. I understand these discussions were further progressed in a meeting on 27 September 2010. I also met with the Chief Executive Officer, NTCSA on 1 October 2010 to discuss relevant issues.

I am further advised that the Chief Executives of DET and NTCSA have since visited the Baniyala community. Following this, and a subsequent visit by the Chief Executive of DET, Mr Waka Mununggurr has confirmed by email that the community indicated the Baniyala Garrangali School should remain a Government school in 2011 and that further discussions would be held in the new year.

My department looks forward to further constructive consultations with your community on these issues.

Yours sincerely



CHRIS BURNS

2 December 2010



Petition

Registration No.	40
Title	APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH BANIYALA SCHOOL
Presented on	12 August 2010
Presented by	Ms Anderson
Referred to	Education (Dr Burns)
Date referred	12 August 2010
Response due	25 November 2010
Response received	3 December 2010
Response presented	3 December 2010 (after Ministerial Statement)

Petition 40

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY:**

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

Our partners, the Northern Territory Christian Schools Association, submitted an application to the Northern Territory Department of Education for the establishment of a non-government school in Baniyala. The Application was submitted on 27th August 2009. We have not received a reply.

On June 1st 2010 we wrote to the Minister for Education to ask what was happening with our Application. We have not received a reply.

We are a community with a Christian faith and are determined to establish a school with a Christian focus in which we can shape our children's education to meet the special challenges and opportunities they will face.

Our partners, the Northern Territory Christian Schools Association will deliver the pre-school, primary and secondary school education we require. They will also provide remedial adult education and vocational education for our community.

47

YOUR PETIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY THAT:

The Northern Territory Department of Education approves our Application by 30th September 2010 so that our partners, the Northern Territory Christian Schools Association are ready to take over the operation of our school on 1st January 2011.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IS DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

Signature: *Djambawa Marawili A M*

Djambawa Marawili AM – Senior Elder and Traditional Owner.



Response

In response to the petition I have written to each petitioner setting out in detail:

- The ongoing communication between my department, the NTCSA and Banyala community leaders;
- Legislative requirements in relation to applications and approvals for registration of non-government schools; and
- Discussions regarding a possible partnership arrangement involving my department and the NTCSA for the delivery of religious education.

I have enclosed a copy of the letter of response to the petitioners.



DR CHRIS BURNS MLA
Minister for Education and Training

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Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8901 4162
Facsimile: 08 8901 4165

Kathy Marawili
Baniyala Community
C/- Laynhapuy Homelands Association
PO Box 1546
NHULUNBUY NT 0881

Dear Kathy

Thank you for signing a petition in August 2010 concerning the establishment of a non-government school at the Baniyala community.

Your petition was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 12 August 2010.

In response to the petition, I wish to set out the following information:

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