

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Hersey to the Minister for Education:

**School Damage**

**1. What is the planned repair timeframe for fire damage at Taminmin College?**

Block 15 was damaged during an electrical fire on 31 January 2022. Affected staff and students were relocated to other available spaces within the school.

Upon full assessment, the damage was found to be greater than first thought and repair and refurbishment works are scheduled to be completed and Block 15 will be available for use in January 2023, prior to term 1 commencement.

**2. What interim solutions have been put in place due to fire damage at Taminmin College? Are there other interim solutions planned, and when will they be provided?**

Two transportable classrooms have been put in place at Taminmin College (TC) as an interim solution to support the school with additional classroom spaces while the repair works are completed.

**3. Are there any departmental guidelines, rules, policies, etc. in place that would prevent board members from publicly updating their communities about issues of concern for their schools?**

School representative body (SRB) members are required to adhere to the Code of Conduct for education sites and workplace participants policy. SRB work with the school to develop a consistent code of conduct for their board or council that aligns to the overarching school's code of conduct.

A requirement of SRB, as outlined in the policy is that they are expected to:

- Recognise that schools are workplaces
- Recognise and respect the expertise and leadership of the school principal
- Accept and follow all reasonable instructions from the principal, supervisor and/or contact person and ask for more information if required
- Recognise and respect the SRB or school management council (SMC) as elected representatives of the school community
- Be honest and fair, dress appropriately and act in appropriate ways that show respect for others and model appropriate standards for students
- Follow all relevant laws, regulations, policies and procedures as directed
- Report any unethical or inappropriate behaviour to the school principal, including breaches of the law, policies and school directives.

If a public comment from a SRB member is considered by the school to not adhere to the above, then they may be requested to considered removing it.

**4. How many times in the 2021/22 financial year has a school board member been instructed not to share information about the school publicly, or been asked to remove information from the public sphere (social media, etc.)?**

Nil, directly by the department.

**5. How many times in the 2021/22 financial year has a school board member requested to share information about the school publicly and been denied?**

Nil, directly by the department.

**6. Are any other Northern Territory schools currently awaiting damage repair? Please describe the damage and the cause, timeframes for repair, and any current or planned interim measures.**

School repairs are included as part of the department's 2022-23 Repairs and Maintenance Program.