Education pathways improved for students in Docker River

30 July 2015

Students at Docker River School will benefit from a seamless transition to their secondary education pathways as the Country Liberals Government’s commitment to improving education outcomes of Indigenous students continues.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said in 2012 we made a commitment to give Indigenous communities a greater say in how their schools are operated through the conversion of government schools into community driven schools.

“In December 2014, Nyangatjatjara College was successful in its application to vary its registration to include education services at Docker River from Transition to Year 6,” Mr Chandler said.

“This celebration marks a significant step forward in the A Share in the Future Indigenous Education Strategy Implementation Plan with community engagement a key part of the strategy.

“The community driven schools initiative will contribute towards further engagement and will assist in raising the level of achievement of Indigenous students in the Northern Territory.

“This government will continue to support Indigenous young people to develop skills and capabilities in order to participate more effectively in society by working together and ensuring commitment to the long-term strategy,” Mr Chandler said.

Nyangatjatjara College is a part of the Association of Independent Schools of the Northern Territory, and develops flexible programs to suit the wide-ranging needs of its students, with scaffolded literacy and numeracy as key features of the college’s teaching approach.

The college has three campuses located in Yulara, Imanpa and Docker River, registered to deliver Year 7 to 10 education programs.

Mr Chandler said consultation occurred with the traditional owners throughout this process, and one final lot of community consultation is currently taking place in relation to the sublease of school facilities and three houses at Docker River.

“Consultation and meetings have also been conducted by senior members of the Department of Education with the community and staff at Docker River School.”

Nyangatjatjara College assumed full responsibility for Docker River School on 1 July 2015.
The college has employed two primary teachers to run the classes at the Docker River campus for primary students, and they will continue to develop flexible programs to engage all students.

Currently 42 students are actively enrolled in Docker River School.

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