The Rivers Secondary College | Richmond River High Campus Planning update | 23 October 2023

Dear staff, families/carers,

Planning for rebuilding The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus (RRHC) is continuing.

Progress summary

- We have reviewed all the feedback provided by the school and community during consultation in Term 2 and 3. In summary, the community overwhelmingly supported a college model with distinct campuses; the need for any site to be flood resilient; and a sustainable campus that reflects the diversity of the RRHC catchment.
- School Infrastructure NSW has identified a short list of potential sites for the new campus. So as not to hinder negotiations with the landowners, these sites are commercial in confidence.
- Most of the core and due diligence consultant team was appointed in September to oversee the rebuilding of Richmond River High Campus.
- A Project Reference Group (PRG) has been established to provide advice and input into planning and designing the campus. PRG members include the RRHC Principal, a P&C representative, the Director of Education Leadership for the Lismore Network, and a member of the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG). The first PRG meeting was held on 11 October 2023 to provide the architect with input into a masterplan for the campus.

Next steps

- Technical experts have begun reviewing the identified sites to assess any issues and constraints. This advice includes town planning, geotechnical, ecological, and heritage assessments, as well as bushfire and flooding considerations.
- The architect will use feedback provided by the PRG and community consultation to develop an overall masterplan for the campus. The masterplan will also be guided by Department of Education's Education Facilities and Standards Guidelines (EFSG).
- Once the technical assessments are complete, School Infrastructure NSW will assess each site against a number of clear criteria. The criteria will include flood resilience, infrastructure requirements, cost, and how each site supports a community vision for education in Lismore and surrounding areas.

We will provide another update before the end of Term 4.

Thank you again to everyone who provided their input into the vision for secondary education in Lismore. A summary of the consultation themes is on the School Infrastructure NSW website.

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