



MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

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INFORMATION UPDATE

FROM THE INTERIM BOARD OF MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Assalamualiakum

Monday, 18 April, 2016

Much of our progress over the past week has been 'behind the scenes'.

We are now able to confirm the full independence of Malek Fahd Islamic School from the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC) with respect to our bank accounts with Westpac. We also had positive discussions last week with AFIC with respect to loans and rental. Discussions will continue and we are confident of resolution.

Hoxton Park building project delay

We are, of course, committed to improving facilities for students and staff. Upgrades of Blocks A and B at Hoxton Park, including the library and some classrooms, are part of this. As part of necessary measures to ensure responsible expenditure throughout the period of seeking to regain public funding, the Interim Board has decided to put on hold construction works at Hoxton Park campus. As I am sure that you will understand, the loss of public funding requires us to be prudent and put our priority on wages and other teaching necessities ahead of building and capital works. It is disappointing to delay this important and much-anticipated project. The Interim Board assures the school community that this is a short-term measure. The construction site at Hoxton Park will remain fenced, safe and secure.

Special support programs for Year 12s & 11s

The Malek Fahd alumni, the Interim Parents & Friends, the Crisis Committee and the Interim Board are working closely together to give practical support to Year 12s preparing for the HSC and Year 11s who are preparing for Year 12 next year.

This is a terrific volunteer initiative from our alumni and demonstrates our School community's strength, character and care. It will rely strongly on support (especially for the Y12s) in three basic parts:

1. Subject-based counselling both for specific subject familiarity and to help each student gain a strong understanding of the public examination process and revision techniques
2. Individual counselling and motivational sessions
3. Readiness for all contingencies, no matter how unlikely and including the extremely unlikely possibility of having to shift school during the year. We all are determined to be diligent and prepare our students for all circumstances, no matter how unlikely. Their welfare comes first

For its contribution to this School community program, the Interim Board is most fortunate to have on-hand the expertise and experience of **Dr John Bennett**, the former Chief Executive of the Office of the Board of Studies of NSW (responsible for the HSC), and **Martyn Bawden**, who has almost 40 years of experience as a senior teacher and school principal at some of Sydney's major public high schools.

Please keep an eye out for future *Information Updates*, which we will look to issue every Friday. We will, of course, let you know immediately of major developments. All updates also will be posted on the School website (click on the Interim Board button). As always, if you have any questions, please email them to interimboard@mfis.nsw.edu.au.

Wassalam

MIRIAM SILVA

Chairman, Interim Board