



# MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

www.mfis.nsw.edu.au

KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT & WORK IS WORSHIP

## INFORMATION UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Assalamualiakum

Monday 26 September 2016

Wednesday of this week (28 September) will see important developments in our application for continued public funding that is essential to the long-term survival of Malek Fahd Islamic School.

You will remember that in April the Board of Malek Fahd Islamic School applied to the Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal to seek continuation of public funding that had been withdrawn by the Federal Government.

In June, the Federal Court confirmed that the Federal Government must, on conditions, continue to provide public funding pending the outcome of our School's application to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

This Wednesday, the application to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal will commence the final stage of the appeal. The Federal Department of Education Department will submit to the Tribunal why it opposes our application and wants the Tribunal to uphold the withdrawal of our public funding. We have provided detailed monthly reports regarding progress to the Tribunal since April and expect that we will be given the opportunity to respond to the Education Department's submission before the Tribunal considers its decision.

Your School Board believes it is important to demonstrate the strength and sincerity of our commitment to:

- Reform our School
- Strong governance
- Demonstrate that public funding is used only for the purpose that it is given
- Underscore that our School is independent of external organisations including the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils
- Recover funds that have been misused from MFIS
- Do all we can as quickly as we can to satisfy every requirement of the *Education Act*

The Board will, therefore, attend the Tribunal hearing on Wednesday along with our School's legal counsel.

We understand that others in our School community also will attend the hearing, which, if you are interested, is on Level 6, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney on Wednesday – the time will be confirmed on the AAT website.

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Irrespective of whether you attend, we will report back to you on Wednesday's proceedings to ensure that you are kept informed.

Finally, I reiterate that your School Board's over-riding commitment is to the education and welfare of your children in a caring Muslim setting. This is the priority and I commend to you our dedicated teachers and staff who continue to do such a great job. Our focus on the child is as absolute as ever.

Jazakallahu Khairan for all your incredible support throughout.

All *Information Updates* are posted on the School website (click on the Board Updates button). If you have any questions of an operational nature, please contact the office of the acting Executive Principal. For any matters that require the attention of the Board, please email interim [board@mfis.nsw.edu.au](mailto:board@mfis.nsw.edu.au).

Wassalam

**MIRIAM SILVA**  
Chairman

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