

29 July 2014

To all Rockingham Montessori School families

Re: Update on the additional site for the school

Mission Statement “To provide a Montessori environment in which the needs of the whole child are met in a nurturing, safe and caring school, by encouraging independence, mutual respect and self-discipline so that students are prepared to take their place in the global community.”

Rockingham Montessori School’s goal is to provide a comprehensive Montessori education for children aged one year to eighteen years of age where children can continue within the one schooling philosophy for their early childhood, primary and secondary education. Rockingham Montessori School has now established itself as a school of choice both nationally and internationally and wishes to further consolidate the success of the school by establishing an additional site where classes are offered from the Infant Toddler Program to Year 12.

Rockingham Montessori School aims to provide beautiful tranquil surrounds for purpose built classroom communities where the children are able to access nature and contribute to environmental sustainability. We have an opportunity to help preserve a portion of land with native flora and fauna in an area that is now subject to dense urbanisation. The relocation to a rural site will support the development of the Erd Kinder program for our adolescents.

As you are aware the School Board has been investigating various sites during the past two years and appointed a consultant to expedite this process. Rockingham Montessori School is now delighted to share with you the news that a location that meets all of our requirements is in the process of being purchased. Purchase of the site enables the Adolescent Program and Infant Toddler Program to relocate from leased premises to a permanent location; this site also offers the opportunity to establish an additional Primary site where the pedagogical approaches in our methodology can be enhanced by a stunning rural location. This 19.43 acre site is located at 1809 Mandurah Rd and our offer of \$1.1M has been accepted and is in the process of Settlement.

The due diligence process that was undertaken included amongst other requirements, a traffic impact study, acoustic report and initial site plan. Careful consideration was also given during the selection of this property to State Government’s future transport and infrastructure planning.



EIW Architects have been appointed to develop an initial site plan that has been forwarded with the schools application to City of Rockingham and Capital Grant Committee for funding of the various phases. EIW Architects were selected based on their previous experience in the educational sector and have been involved in the development of schools such as The Montessori School, Tranby College and Hammond Park Catholic Primary School amongst many others. The architects' brief is to develop learning centres maximising use of the property's features whilst minimising impact to existing vegetation. The site hosts superb topography and 360° views of the area from the ocean to the scarp.

The School intends to keep a Children's House and Primary class at the existing 7 Attwood Way site to ensure that all existing families can continue to access this current location and Montessori education program. Upon further transitions and/or enrolment you will be asked your preferred location and classes will be structured accordingly. Current planning foresees the following stages:

- Stage 1 Adolescent Program
- Stage 2 Primary and administration buildings
- Stage 3 Infant Toddler / Daycare / Before and After School Care

Our timelines may be determined by the availability of Low Interest Loans and Capital Grant Funding. At this stage we anticipate the Adolescent Program commencing on site during 2015 however this is still subject to further ongoing processes to complete such as planning approval to be granted by the City of Rockingham and building planning confirmed by Department of Education Services.

We thank you and appreciate the input we have received to date and will continue to keep you informed as this project progresses.

Yours sincerely



Sonja Neame
Chairman