



MEDIA STATEMENT

RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MEMBER FOR WEST SWAN



Thursday 17 February 2011

AIR-CON FARCE HEATS UP AS CLASSROOMS CONTINUE TO ROAST

Local Member for West Swan Rita Saffioti has weighed in on the ludicrous situation at Caversham Primary School where students are forced to swelter in brand new classrooms while air-conditioners are kept in their box.

Ms Saffioti has been in contact with the P&C over the issue and is now calling on State Education Minister Liz Constable to intervene and offer a common sense solution.

Under the Building the Education Revolution program new classrooms built at Caversham Primary School have a 12 month warranty to them. In WA, Education Department policy means Caversham does not qualify for air-conditioning, however the P&C can raise funds and purchase the units themselves.

Ms Saffioti said the P&C at Caversham did this last year but because of the 12 month warranty on the new buildings they cannot install the air-conditioners as it will void the warranty.

“The State Government needs to step in and have this issue resolved,” Ms Saffioti said.

“Building contracts were managed by the Education Department, the kids shouldn’t have to bear the consequences of this ludicrous situation.

“If schools were notified about this at the beginning of the process, each school could have specified their own air-conditioner in the building contract.”

Ms Saffioti said it was important this issue was resolved quickly to ensure young students did not continue to swelter in hot classrooms.

“If the Minister cannot resolve this some classrooms will still be roasting come Term four,” she said.

“A common-sense solution is needed.”

Media Contact: Rita Saffioti 9248 3822