

KARRATHA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL — STUDENT POPULATION

**974. Hon JACQUI BOYDELL to the Minister for Education and Training:**

I refer to Karratha Senior High School.

- (1) How many students was Karratha Senior High School originally built to accommodate?
- (2) How many students are currently in attendance at Karratha Senior High School?
- (3) What are the forecast numbers to attend the school in 2020 and 2021?
- (4) Given the “mini boom” expected in the Pilbara, what plans, if any, does the government have to accommodate expected student population growth in Pilbara schools?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Karratha Senior High School was built to accommodate 957 students.
- (2) There are 1 218 students as at 4 September 2019.
- (3) The number of students forecast for 2020 is 1 231 and for 2021, 1 299.
- (4) The Department of Education monitors student population growth in all its schools, including those in the Pilbara, and plans appropriate responses. The department uses transportable classrooms to accommodate short-term growth. There are currently 18 transportable classrooms at the school, including two that are utilised for the Clontarf program. Responses to long-term sustained growth are subject to planning and budget processes. In the case of Karratha Senior High School, the department is currently working with the school and local community to determine an appropriate solution in response to its student population growth. In fact, departmental officers are meeting in Karratha today, 5 September, with school and community representatives as part of the planning process for public education in Karratha.