

Victor T White

The Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC, BA, LLB
Environmental & Public Affairs Committee
GPO Box A11
Perth, WA 6837



Dear Sir

Re: Perth Modern School

I have recently signed a petition of over 6000 signatures requesting that the retention of Perth Modern School in its present position be considered and thank you for receiving this.

In addition to the several reasons already advanced I would like to emphasise one which I consider to be very important – ‘mens sana in corpore sano’ – a sound mind in a sound body. Ever since the days of ancient Greece and Rome this has been considered, where ever possible, the sign of a well-rounded person.

My primary school education was at a one teacher school in a small timber town in the South-West and I considered it very fortunate that I was able to complete my secondary education at Perth Modern School.

From the first assembly in the old hall there was a sense of place about the buildings and outside there was the oval, our oval! There to be used for matches against other schools without being bussed in, there to be used at lunch time to anyone who wanted to run on it, there to be used after school if one so desired. Just a little further away were the tennis courts, there to be used after school with three other students for hit up. A perfect situation for ‘a sound mind in a sound body’.

This combination of educating the mind and the body will not be possible to the same extent from a high rise building in the middle of Perth and will be to the detriment of the students overall wellbeing.

Dr Victor T White AM, MB BS, FRCOG, FRANZCOG