

## Media Release 30 June 2010

The Education and Science Select Committee has released a report in response to The North East Secondary Education (NESE) Committee's petition and proposal for a local high school. The report recommends a review of secondary school requirements in North East Christchurch, including consultation with the community to ensure adequate schooling provision is available for the area.

The NESE Committee is pleased with this recommendation. We have achieved another milestone towards our goal of a local high school.

The Ministry of Education will make a recommendation to the Minister of Education about what an area strategy for North East Christchurch could involve. Normally an independent facilitator would be engaged to conduct the area review. As NESE's proposal and subsequent work has been comprehensive, we understand the recommendations are likely to avoid the need to replicate work done by both NESE & MOE, other than updating current demographics etc. Community workshops and a public consultation process are likely to be included.

The Minister of Education Ann Tolley will then instruct the MOE on a subsequent course of action.

The case for a local high school is focused around issues of pupil numbers, community social needs and environmental sustainability. If the outcome of an area review is a recommendation to proceed with a new high school, the decision will need to be approved by Cabinet.

NESE Committee members have met with Raymond Webb, MOE's Acting Regional Manager. Both parties will continue to work together on this issue to ensure the most beneficial local high schooling is provided for the area's students.

<ENDS> Contact Details: NESE is a sub-committee of the Parklands Residents Association.