

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Education
Minister for Women



Monday, 8 May 2023

PRINCIPALS NAMED FOR NINE NEW MELBOURNE SCHOOLS

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering thousands of students across Melbourne's fast growing west brand new schools in 2024, with the first nine principals named for schools opening from Term 1.

Visiting the construction site for the Truganina education precinct today, Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins highlighted the Labor Government's nation-leading new school construction program and announced Joanne Camozzato as principal of Truganina North Secondary School (interim name).

Truganina North Primary School (interim name) will have Joanna Stanford as Principal. The new school, along with a new co-located kindergarten will open in 2024 – saving local parents time and money by avoiding the dreaded double drop off.

As part of the visit, Minister Hutchins also announced:

- John Mitsinikos as principal of Aintree Secondary School (interim name)
- Mark Zahra as principal of Black Forest East Primary School (interim name)
- Bradley Moyle as principal of Lollypop Creek Secondary School (interim name)
- Michele Marcu as principal of Lollypop Creek Specialist School (interim name)
- Simon Haber as principal of Riverdale Secondary School (interim name)
- Paul Schwartz as principal of Tarneit North Primary School (interim name)

Jean Bentley has been selected as principal of Brookfield Primary School (interim name), with recruitment for Aintree Specialist School (interim name) currently underway.

The principals will now prepare for the 2024 school year, recruiting teachers and staff and designing a curriculum, ensuring their local community has a great local school close to home.

In the past eight years, the Labor Government has invested \$12.8 billion in building new schools and delivering more than 1,850 school upgrades.

As part of the \$14 billion Best Start Best Life reforms, the Labor Government has delivered a kindergarten on-site or next door to every new primary school that has opened since 2021, ensuring families have better access to the services they need.

Delivery of 100 new schools by 2026 is ahead of schedule, with 75 new schools opening between 2019 and 2024 – ensuring every student can access a great local school and a quality education no matter where they live.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins

"Families across fast growing areas in Melbourne's west are being delivered the educational infrastructure they need, with more schools being built there than anywhere else in the state."

"We're ensuring students and teachers across the state have the 21st century modern learning facilities they need, just like these brand new schools and kindergarten in Truganina, enabling them to reach their full potential."

Quote attributable to Minister for Early Childhood and Pre-Prep Ingrid Stitt

Media contact: Corey Croft 0468 897 764 | corey.croft@minstaff.vic.gov.au

“Ensuring the best start for the littlest Victorians means they have better educational outcomes and opportunities later in life, and this new kinder will ensure local families in Melbourne’s West are delivered just that.”