

Friday 4 June 2010

COALITION TO EXTEND SOMERVILLE SECONDARY COLLEGE TO YEARS 11 & 12

The Victorian Liberal Nationals Coalition will extend Somerville Secondary College to years 11 and 12, providing a full secondary school in the Somerville area.

The community in Somerville has been calling on the Brumby Government for the extension of the secondary school for more than eight years, yet their concerns have been ignored.

Somerville is a rapidly growing area and the provision of a Year 7-12 secondary college is imperative.

More than eight years ago, the Liberals, after consultation with the community, pushed for a full secondary college, but Labor ignored the obvious need.

By remaining silent on this issue the Brumby Government is showing that it does not care about education in Somerville.

Local Liberal Member for Hastings Neale Burgess has worked tirelessly to support Somerville Secondary College in its expansion and has advocated the community's wish for the school to provide a full secondary education.

Today's announcement by the Coalition allows Somerville students to complete their schooling on one campus in their own community.

Parents need options for their children's education and by extending Somerville to Years 11 and 12, students have consistency and certainty for their future.

Somerville has grown to a population of 14,000, and the community needs and deserves its own complete secondary college.

The announcement provides parents and teachers with the opportunity to plan for the coming years with certainty.

The Coalition has listened and provided parents and the community with the education service they deserve. John Brumby would rather wait until he or his ministers have a photo opportunity and glossy brochure organised before they front the people of Somerville.