

Dear

Lucan Community College is included on the Department of Education and Skill's six-year construction programme 2016-2021. Regrettably the school's proposed extension and refurbishment project has been blighted by numerous delays over the past 10 years. The school's current building is nearly 30 years old. The accommodation is over-stretched and insufficient to cater for the growing school population and the needs of a modern teaching and learning environment and is not of a standard commensurate with the quality of teaching and learning in the school as verified by inspection reports from the Department. The Board has done its utmost to respond to parental requests to increase our enrolment numbers due to the high regard in which the college is held in the community. They have acceded to the building of temporary accommodation as a short-term measure. The college will no longer be able to meet demands to increase enrolment without provision of a suitable building.

At present, the building project for the school is completing Stage 2(a) of the Architectural Planning process. Due the delays prior and during this stage, it is now accepted that the previous target date for opening of September 2018 will not be met. However, the Board of Management and Parents' Association have informed the school community that they are now increasingly concerned that the revised target date for opening of September 2019 may now also be in jeopardy unless approval to proceed to stage 2B is forthcoming and a planning application is consequently submitted in coming weeks.

A Stage 2A Addendum was submitted by Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB to the DES on the 22nd December 2016 and was forwarded to the Department's Technical Staff for review on the 6th January 2017. Over one month later we are still awaiting an instruction to proceed to Stage 2B of the process.

As a concerned member of the school community of Lucan Community College, I would ask you to engage in representation to Minister Bruton and relevant officials in the DES directing that consideration of the Stage 2A Addendum be expedited and that approval to proceed to stage 2B be granted as matter of urgency. The students of Lucan Community College present and future deserve a quality building to match their quality education.

Yours Sincerely,
