



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 14 June 2012

### **NEW PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR CONCORD WEST AND WENTWORTH POINT**

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli today inspected the site of Sydney's newest school – to be delivered as part of the record 2012-13 Budget for Education.

The Budget provided for six new schools across the State, including two in the Concord/Homebush area and the expansion of a third.

Visiting the site of a new public school in Concord West, Mr O'Farrell said the NSW Government was delivering new schools for growing populations.

“The Budget is a significant investment in the future of education,” Mr O'Farrell said.

“We are providing the facilities needed for students to learn and teachers to work effectively.

“The growing numbers of young families in Sydney's inner west are the big winners with new schools for Concord West and Wentworth Point.

“These new schools will ease pressure on existing local schools and will reduce the need for further demountables in the area.”

Mr Piccoli said the NSW Government was investing \$535 million for schools' capital works in the upcoming year.

“The new school in Concord West will have 24 classrooms, a communal hall, library, canteen, student, staff and administration areas and special education facilities. The school is expected to be open by 2015.

“The other new school for the area is a primary school at Wentworth Point to serve the expanding local and Sydney Olympic Park communities.

“This school will have 18 classrooms, including four special education classrooms.

“While the exact site is still being negotiated, the school is expected to open in 2017.

“The third development announced is a significantly enlarged site for Newington Public School.

“With the growth in the area new classrooms have had to be built and the school has lost play space. Funding in the budget will allow the school to regain their play space.

“The NSW Government has been working closely with the Sydney Olympic Park Authority to develop options to expand the school’s playground.

“This project will provide a much-needed improvement to recreational facilities for students and staff at the school.

“New schools will also be built at The Ponds, Lakemba and Lake Cathie.”

Member for Drummoyne John Sidoti said the new schools will accommodate the population growth that is currently feeding students into Concord West and Strathfield North public schools.

“Since being elected I have been calling for new schools in the area because the existing schools just won’t be able to meet demand with the new development planned for Rhodes and Wentworth Point in the coming years.

“The construction will be a joint venture with Canada Bay Council, which owns the land at Powells Creek Reserve where the school will be built.

“Schools are community facilities, so it is fantastic the NSW Government and Canada Bay Council have worked together to deliver a solution that will benefit the whole community.

“The agreement with the Council means that the community will have access to the school out of school hours and the school will have access to the Council playing fields during the day.”

City of Canada Bay Mayor, Angelo Tsirekas, welcomed the announcement.

“Council is delighted with this partnership with the Department of Education and Communities,” Mayor Tsirekas said.

“Not only does it address the shortage of school places in our area, it will provide further community based facilities for years to come.”

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