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21st May, 2007

Mr Daryl Fraser
C/-email karen.ellingord@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Fraser,

We write in relation to the government inquiry into dress codes and uniforms. At Strathmore North Primary School we have had a compulsory uniform for approximately seven years. Our school community are very happy with the uniform and policy guidelines.

We believe it fosters a sense of collective pride and allows students and the wider community to identify with the school. It provides safety and security on site and when travelling. It also provides economical clothing styles, reduces competitive dressing and is safe and suitable for all of our school activities.

We manage our own uniform shop and try to keep our prices as low as possible.

We do not have any conscientious objectors to the uniform and parents are very supportive.

Parents are asked to send a note if their child is out of uniform for any reason. We are a Sunsmart School so all students are expected to wear hats or remain in a shaded area.

Sanctions include:

- a) Spoken to
- b) Name in out of uniform book
- c) Note or call to parent

Occasionally, we will give parents some secondhand uniform to support them financially or during their transition into our school.

Children are withdrawn from any activities due to non-compliance.

Overall, the School Council believes that our uniform code is most advantageous for the children of Strathmore North Primary School.

Thanking you,

Trevor Andrews
School Council President
on behalf of School Council