The state government recently announced 3.5 million dollars to assist schools explore options of resource sharing, including federating and amalgamating where they see an opportunity to do so. At our August meeting, it was decided that The Wynyard High School Association send an invitation to Table Cape Primary School to explore options for possible resource sharing between the two schools given their close proximity. The driving factor for this was not the funding per sa as the amount on offer to the schools would be small, but the fact that there could be benefits to both schools in the sharing of resources.

The two school associations met for the first meeting last week as an introduction to that process. We believe that there are ways in which the two schools might be able to work more closely together to our mutual benefit an example of which might be to purchase resources in bulk together or share teaching staff in certain areas if it were mutually beneficial to do so.

We will look at a range of options without limit at this stage. However, contrary to some reports in the community, there are no plans at this point from Wynyard High School to either federate or merge with any school including Table Cape Primary School. Wynyard High School is committed to ensuring we have the best resources possible for our students and school as possible.

The school community as well as our wider community will be consulted during this process. Together with the students, parents and staff of the schools, we expect that community members will play an active role in assisting the schools explore the options open to them for the best result for the schools and community as a whole. However this is a long process and there is no agenda for fast tracking anything at this stage.

In the short term the schools will look at areas where we can work more closely together and we have requested information on some modelling for various options open to us in the future with a view that this will be part of information gathering to help the community come to a decision and not as a foregone conclusion that anything bigger might be happening.

I would expect that the Wynyard High School may also explore options to work more closely with our other primary schools in the area. Again, this is to ensure the best results and options for our community.

If you have any questions regarding the process please do not hesitate to contact me by email in the first instance at paul_campbell1@hotmail.com so that we can arrange to discuss it further.

Paul Campbell

Wynyard High School Association Chairperson

Remember: Together We Can