Union questions western suburbs school pledge



The State School Teachers' Union said it was sceptical about the State Government's latest announcement regarding a new high school in the western suburbs.

The government has promised a new public secondary school will open in 2020 on the former City Beach High School site.

"Today's announcement by the Minister for a new western suburbs high school has been made far too late, with $88m already committed to expansions at Shenton College and Churchlands SHS," said SSTUWA president Pat Byrne.

"School communities in the western suburbs have been calling out for years for another school, and it has fallen on deaf ears.

"This is another example of the Liberal Government's mismanagement of public schools in the western suburbs, which has already left Churchlands SHS catering for 2400 students with 42 transportable classrooms on site.

"Shenton College is in a similar situation, with 2200 students."

Ms Byrne said the government had changed its position several times before today's announcement.

"This is the third version of a delivery date for a new school, with the Minister first announcing that a school would be built by 2019, then by 2027 and now by 2020," she said.

"Given the Minister's indecision on this issue, parents in the western suburbs have no reason to believe his latest assurances."

Authorised by Sally Dennis, General Secretary, The State School Teachers' Union of W.A.
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