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To the Northern Rivers community

This week I visited schools in the Northern Rivers to hear from principals, students, parents and teachers. Unfortunately, I was unable to visit every school impacted by the floods, however, the visit enabled me to gain a better understanding of the devastating impact of the floods on school communities.

Due to the unique challenges facing schools, students and families, we have established a Flood Support program, to collect detailed information about the impact of the floods on each student.

This includes specific information about each student, the progress they had made, and the impact on their work.

Our current priority is offering support and advice for performance exams, practical projects and submitted works/projects. We value the suggestions that school executives have proposed and will review these and endeavour to implement where feasible.

NESA is also looking to expand our support for schools in the area, for the benefit of students, teachers and principals.

While I understand it can be very challenging, I encourage students to continue learning, and where practical and safe, working on projects and submitted works and preparing for performance exams.

Motivation can be hard to muster and maintain in times like these but focussing on post-school goals may provide a sense of hope.

I would like to reassure you that we will continue to support schools and ensure there are processes in place to support HSC students.

Visit our <u>Flood Advice page</u> on the NESA website, for information on the work we are undertaking to support schools.

If you have any questions, please call NESA's Flood Enquiry line 1300 13 83 23.

Yours sincerely

Paul Martin

Chief Executive Officer

19/05/2022