Students up for testing time

STRONG RESULTS EXPECTED IN THIS YEAR’S NAPLAN EXAM

Sam Bonger and Erin Smith

PENINSULA students could be in for another strong round of NAPLAN test results next week, with Parents & Citizens Association state president Kevin Goodworth confident Queensland schools would continue to improve their results.

Mr Goodworth said NAPLAN provided national and state-based evidence and data that had previously not been available, and in recent years they showed Queensland results had improved, partly thanks to the introduction of the Preparatory Year of schooling and the move from Year 7 to high school.

“It shows the great work teachers are doing, working with principals and parents,” he said. “I’m very optimistic that the Queensland gains will be sustained.”

Mother-of-four Megan Sulejic, who has three children sitting the test this year, said it was a good way to monitor progress.

“It isn’t quite accurate and we don’t take the results on too much but it is a good way to track how they are going overall,” Mrs Sulejic said.

None of Mrs Sulejic’s children, Layla (Year 5) and Tayah (Year 3), said they were stressed about the three days of exams.

All three said their teachers at Southern Cross Catholic College had prepared them well. This year, Nicolas will complete his third NAPLAN test.

“I was a bit stressed the first time because I didn’t really know what it was, but this time it is just another test,” Nicolas said.

Layla said the test was “only a little bit hard” and she was not too concerned.

NAPLAN results showed Queensland schools had improved in both literacy and numeracy since the test’s inception in 2008. Last year’s cohort of Year 7s in Queensland achieved the best results in reading, spelling and numeracy for that age group since 2008.

Students in Year 5 also posted record results for the state in writing, spelling and numeracy.