Attempts to establish a public school at Kiama commenced with a public meeting on 3 November 1857. The school, however, did not open until May 1861. The first teacher, James Hustler, had previously conducted a private school in the town. Trouble between residents and the teacher, Grenado Chapman, led to the closure of the school in April 1867. The local Board of Public Education remained active and worked to re-establish the school. In January 1870 a tender by John Brown of Wollongong was accepted for £1123.15.0 for the erection and furnishing of a single storeyed schoolroom. This school, with John Stewart as the teacher, opened on 5 April 1871. This collection comprises items relating to Kiama Public School.
Item List

1. Minute and Letter Book 1862-1867
2. Minute Book 1867-1879
3. Letter Book 1857-1871
4. Cash Book 1867-1883
5. “List of books, maps, furniture etc., the property of the Board, delivered over to the Secretary of the Kiama National School, this 29th day of March 1862”
6. Accounts for printing performed by Joseph Weston for the Public School 1871
7. Programme of Lessons. 25 September 1891