



Speech by

**Mr R. QUINN**

**MEMBER FOR MERRIMAC**

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Hansard 22 October 1998

**COORPAROO SECONDARY COLLEGE**

**Mr QUINN** (Merrimac—LP) (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party) (7.22 p.m.): This morning, the Minister for Education tried to salvage some pride from the wreckage of his attempt to short-change the parents and students of the Coorparoo Secondary College. The Minister announced that he would fund the full extent of preliminary site works associated with the construction of multi-purpose ball courts at the Coorparoo Secondary College. It was not correct when he said that the project was an unfunded promise of the previous Government and that the P & C would have to pay an extra \$40,000. As proof, I table two letters from Education Queensland to the school's P & C. The first, dated 9 February 1998, states—

"I refer to the school's proposal to construct a multi-purpose courts complex and confirm the government's commitment to provide a suitable platform for the facility."

Education Queensland was fully aware of its obligation to fund the full extent of providing a platform for the multi-purpose area. The second letter that I will table is also from Education Queensland to the school. It is dated 19 June and tells the P & C to go ahead with the project and keep separate the costs of the platform and the courts.

The Education Minister's exercise in deception this morning was a disgrace. However, even more disgraceful and despicable is the cynical approach that this Minister and his partner in deception, the member for Greenslopes, have taken. Despite the fact that the funding was in place under the previous Government, and even though the contractor is almost finished the work and is seeking payment—

**Mr FENLON:** I rise to a point of order. I find the suggestion that I have been involved in any form of deception highly irregular and offensive. I ask that it be withdrawn.

**Mr QUINN:** I withdraw. It is my understanding that the Minister is refusing to hand over the money before speech night when he or the member for Greenslopes can bask in the reflected glory of the hard work of the previous member for Greenslopes, Ted Radke, who secured this funding.

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