



Speech by

Hon. KEN HAYWARD

MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR

Hansard 2 March 2000

NARANGBA VALLEY STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Hon. K. W. HAYWARD (Kallangur—ALP) (7.16 p.m.): Monday, 31 January was a great day for the growing communities of Narangba and Burpengary, because it was the day that the Narangba Valley State High School opened for the first time. For years, the residents of Narangba and Burpengary had lobbied with me to finally see the construction of this high school.

A high school for the district was first mooted in about 1992, as a population explosion had occurred in the area. Unfortunately, that school was removed from the construction program when the Borbidge coalition Government came to power. Thankfully, the school was immediately restored to the program when the Beattie Government was elected.

I congratulate the Education Minister, Dean Wells, on having the determination and the foresight to get construction under way. The school is constructed in the Forest Ridge estate. I congratulate the developers of that estate, Heritage Properties, on its determination to negotiate with the relevant Government departments to ensure that the purchase of the land went ahead. I also congratulate the Education Department, particularly the new principal, Mr Ken Kennedy, who consulted with the community for about six months before the Narangba Valley State High School opened.

I attended and spoke at one of the public meetings when Mr Kennedy was introduced to the Narangba community and, of course, to parents of prospective students of the school. It was a great meeting, not just because the people were pleased to see a new high school for the district but also the expert and understanding way in which Education Department officials and Mr Kennedy answered questions and explained what the new school would be about. It was a revelation to those people who attended the meeting.

The Narangba Valley State High School has opened with over 300 Year 8 students, an excellent teaching staff and principal, with a great parents and citizens committee and, I think most importantly, the complete support of all members of the local communities of Narangba and Burpengary. This school will have a great future in the district.
