



Speech by

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MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard 3 June 2003

EDUCATION FACILITIES, SUNSHINE COAST

Mr CUMMINS (Kawana—ALP) (12.23 p.m.): I rise proudly to speak to the education node which is fast becoming a happening thing on the Sunshine Coast within my electorate of Kawana. I would like to start by drawing to the attention of the House a great success story of the Mooloolaba State Primary School, which has managed to reduce its water consumption by more than 80 per cent and in so doing reduce its water charges from \$14,400 per year to \$2,400 per year—quite a saving. I know the minister is well aware of this, as I have written to her following Gary Sarburg, the manager of Maroochy Water Services, bringing to my attention what a marvellous thing the school has done. While Mooloolaba is not in my electorate—it is just outside of my electorate—there are residents within my electorate who attend this school.

I would also like to place on the public record my congratulations to the Mountain Creek State High School, as it is a school that has always valued excellence and has been committed to innovation and best practice. In the year 2000-01 it was named as one of six winners in the inaugural Showcase for Excellence Awards. Since then, it has decided to participate in trying to achieve accreditation from the European Council of International Schools program, and it was granted. So that was a great positive for the school.

Mountain Creek State High School last year continued to distinguish itself as one of Queensland's most successful secondary schools, with a current enrolment of close to 2,000 people. It is Queensland's fourth largest school. Greg Peach is the principal of that school. I know that the minister is always keen to keep an eye on him because he does such a marvellous job.

Buderim Mountain State School also last year won an award in recognition of its Helping Boys Face the Future with Confidence program. It was due to a group of interested parents who formed a boys education group at the school to implement strategies that will improve the attitude, behaviour and academic performance of male students. Their efforts complement and support the work of teachers in increasing the level of education success for boys at the Buderim Mountain State School.

Also, the Kawana Waters State High School won recognition for its international program. Kawana Waters State High School is one of the largest state providers of matriculation to international students in Queensland through a partnership with the Qi Lu Training College in China. International students are valued members of Education Queensland's learning community and, indeed, the whole Sunshine Coast community, including that of Kawana Waters. Kawana Waters' program provides an opportunity for a diverse school population and enriched learning experience for all school students. Both these programs in place at Buderim Mountain State School and Kawana Waters State High School were outstanding examples of the pursuit for teacher excellence that has underpinned the Smart State strategies.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention the pride I have in the education node or precinct within my electorate on the Sunshine Coast. As members know, we were very privileged to host Premier Beattie and Employment Minister, Matt Foley, when they officially opened the approximately \$15 million Mountain Creek TAFE facility. At this point I must commend Wayne Bradley of the Cooloolo Sunshine Coast TAFE, present chairman, Ken Hicks, former chairman, Ted Fitzgerald, and all the board members, who I know are very proud of the fine facility that has been delivered by the Beattie government.

While in my electorate the Premier also opened a new multicultural facility located at the Sunshine Coast University—a marvellous facility which all Sunshine Coast residents should be rightly proud of. I am extremely pleased with the recent announcement of the Minister for Education, Anna Bligh, who is present today in the chamber, regarding Chancellor College.

My rapidly growing area is well served by quality education facilities, and this state government complements it with a state-of-the-art facility. Right next door to both the university and the facility that I speak of is the Siena Catholic Primary School, which is very well positioned in this educational precinct. Peter Donelan is the primary school's principal. The school, whilst only in its infant years, is doing a great job.