



Speech by

Barbara Stone

MEMBER FOR SPRINGWOOD

Hansard Tuesday, 6 March 2007

SPRINGWOOD ELECTORATE, SCHOOLS

Ms STONE (Springwood—ALP) (9.45 pm): It is that time of year again when we meet the leaders of the future in our schools, and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all school leaders in my electorate. It never ceases to amaze me the high calibre of all students coming through our schools. Our future is certainly in good hands. It is also the time of year that many P&C and P&Fs have their AGM, and I take this opportunity to congratulate the new executive members and thank the retiring committee members for the hard work that they have done. I wish all school communities in the Springwood electorate a successful and enjoyable school year. I want to also take the opportunity to inform the House of a number of great initiatives in schools in the Springwood electorate.

Shailer Park State High School's project GLEAM Team won the Media Monitors Showcase Award for Excellence in Inclusive Education. Special needs are celebrated in an inspirational program creating real-life learning opportunities. GLEAM—short for Guided Learning Educationally Adjusted Mentoring—teams students from the special education unit with mentors from years 9 to 12 to run Sapphires Training Restaurant and Conference Centre. The GLEAM Team program recognises and values the diversity of students' talents. As a result of the program, students have achieved numerous work placements with support from six local businesses and community organisations.

I congratulate the school community members behind this program that is making a real difference to the outcomes of students. Sapphires Training Restaurant and Conference Centre is staffed by students from the special education unit and those studying hospitality practices gain practical experience by planning menus, setting the restaurant to preparing and serving food. Hospitality staff work with students developing prefunction or table layout, back of house such as preparing, cooking and cleaning, front of house such as serving and interacting with customers, and postfunction skills. The students are gaining practical experience in a real-life situation. I look forward to attending more functions at Sapphires. I particularly look forward to taking the Premier to Sapphires when he comes to Shailer Park State High School later in the year to officially open its middle schools building.

I now turn to Springwood State High School. It is a leading school in aerospace industry studies and this is having a real impact on opportunities for students. Already I have met two students from the Springwood electorate who are participating in this industry through their studies and work experience placements. Recently I had a tour around the Brisbane Airport and surrounding area and was amazed at the facilities and the success of the Queensland aviation industry. I do not have time tonight to go into the many companies that are training pilots or building helicopters or doing heavy maintenance on large aircraft such as 767s or 737s, but all of these companies are creating jobs, creating opportunities for young people and demonstrating that Queensland is definitely on the map when it comes to competing in the global market. As I said, the aviation industry is translating into jobs for young people in the Springwood electorate. I want to congratulate Springwood State High School on its initiative to recognise these opportunities.

Time expired.