



Speech by

**Kate Jones**

**MEMBER FOR ASHGROVE**

Hansard Thursday, 9 August 2007

---

## **ASHGROVE ELECTORATE, SCHOOL PROJECTS; ODGERS, MS R; MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

**Ms JONES** (Ashgrove—ALP) (4.31 am): On Tuesday morning I had the pleasure of attending the launch of the Ashgrove State School's edible garden project.

**A government member** interjected.

**Ms JONES:** I know. It is very exciting. This innovative project was funded through a \$15,000 grant from the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport

**A government member** interjected.

**Ms JONES:** I know. He is so busy, but he can still provide money for my local school. He is a great man.

**Mrs Reilly:** A great minister.

**Ms JONES:** A great minister. I take that interjection. That \$15,000 in funding from the minister was allocated through the Eat Well, Be Active grant program. The funding will be used to build the garden, as well as providing tools to maintain the garden. It is intended that the gardens be constructed and maintained by years 6 and 7 students in conjunction with teachers, consultants and volunteer parents and grandparents.

It is also the school's intention to encourage local residents to be involved in the gardens and to help share skills, knowledge and contact between the school and the wider community. The funding will also be used to undertake a kitchen fit-out so that students can use the food they grow to cook healthy food options.

**A government member:** Hear, hear!

**Ms JONES:** I know. It is very exciting. To celebrate the launch the school held a free dress day with students dressed up as farmers. There were even a few strawberries and there was even a little chicken and a little lambie. It was very cute.

I believe that this project really builds on the state government's commitment to improve the health and wellbeing—

**A government member:** Was it waterwise?

**Ms JONES:** Yes, it is waterwise. It improves the health and wellbeing of young Queenslanders through the healthy choices changes that we have made already in our schools.

This week I also attended the launch of the Healthy Bones Week at The Gap State School.

**A government member:** Fair dinkum!

**Ms JONES:** I am a very busy local member. Through this program the children learn how to build bone strength through their calcium intake as well as through food, weight-bearing exercises and a small amount of sunlight. The coordinator and Gap State School mother, Mrs Kellie Stockton, was very

impressed by how much the students learned. The children had a really great time and they particularly enjoyed the free milk that they were given by Parmalat, with the team of Fortitude at the school winning.

I have only one minute left in which to speak, so I want to acknowledge two things. One is that Rosie Odgers from the *Courier-Mail* is taking leave. She has been a long-serving journalist at the *Courier-Mail*. She is taking six months long service leave. I want to thank Rosie. I have had a really great working relationship with Rosie over the past seven years.

I also want to wish the member for Clayfield the best of luck next week. I know it is going to be a very tough week for him and the member for Moggill. I hope he does not get RSI through all the stabbing he will do in the back. I know that it is going to be a tough week—gloves on, gloves off.

Quite frankly, I really hope that Flegg keeps the numbers, but I know that it is going to be a tough week. My thought will be with Timmy.

**Mr Nicholls:** I will always look after the western suburbs, don't worry.

**Ms JONES:** That is right. I was very surprised to hear the member talk about state schools. Being a member of the Liberal Party, I did not think that he cared about them. So it was very heartening to hear a Liberal Party member actually talk about state schools, because they do not seem to give a stuff about them in Canberra.