



Speech by

## Hon. Ken Hayward

MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR

Hansard Thursday, 8 February 2007

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### BURPENGARY MEADOWS STATE SCHOOL

**Hon. KW HAYWARD** (Kallangur—ALP) (5.32 pm): I rise to speak about the new Burpengary Meadows State School in the electorate of Kallangur. This school has opened with a great start. The school has been designed as a single campus school with prep to year 7, but it is broken into two subschools, prep to year 3 and year 4, and year 7 is located in separate yet linked learning precincts in an area bounded by Kurrajong Drive, Rowley Road and Hauton Road, Burpengary. The new principal of this school is Peter Black and what a great job he has done in getting the school in place for its successful opening on 29 January.

**Mr Hoolihan:** A great bloke.

**Mr HAYWARD:** He speaks very highly of the member. When we spoke about his previous history in Rockhampton, he said the member was a great supporter when he was teaching there. As I have just indicated, Peter is well known for his teaching activities previously in the Rockhampton district. He was appointed in July 2006 to undertake the necessary preliminary work to set up the school.

I understand that the school was to open with 220 students and, as a testament to its initial success and the hard work of the staff, as of yesterday it had 288 students enrolled. Burpengary is a growth area. The school has a staff complement of 26—16 teachers and 10 auxiliary staff. I remember being at the school during January when Peter was interviewing potential new teachers in order to meet the unexpected enrolment demand that was occurring. This is a new school. One way of telling that—and all members would understand this—is that at the initial P&C meeting to elect an interim executive on 18 October, the school had a parent roll-up of 85 parents. Many well-established schools would love to get a roll-up such as that for the annual general meeting of their P&C. I hope the school gets a similar turnout at its first annual general meeting on 21 February.

The parent and community interest in the new school has been fantastic. A very successful open day was held on 26 January, Australia Day. Parents and other Burpengary residents had an opportunity to inspect the new school and meet the teachers who staff the school and teach their children. I congratulate the staff of this new school. I think that its huge parent and community support will ensure that it will have a great future in serving the Burpengary community. Burpengary Meadows State School will be another great state school in the Kallangur electorate.