



Speech by

**Mark Ryan**

**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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## **SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY**

**Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (10.27 pm): School based chaplaincy is a feature of most schools in the Morayfield state electorate. For instance, my past primary school, St Eugene College at Burpengary, embraces the guidance and chaplaincy support provided by current Oblate priests, Father Tony Maher and Father Paul Smithers. SU Queensland Chaplaincy services also provides dedicated professional support to public school students in the Morayfield state electorate.

Chaplaincy Week, or 'Chappy Week' as it is more endearingly known, was held around Queensland but more particularly in the Morayfield state electorate in the last week of May. A number of celebrations involved local schools in the Morayfield state electorate. One such event was called 'Chappy Day' and it was to be hosted by the Morayfield State School. Unfortunately, a severe weather event meant that the Channel 7 helicopter, 96.5 FM Radio and the school community had to cancel their respective activities for Chappy Day. Nonetheless, I wish to acknowledge the hard work done by the principal, Ms Vicky Gahan, the staff, students and parents of Morayfield State School and the Morayfield State School P&C in preparation for Chappy Day. Whilst the students were no doubt disappointed, I trust that all involved are excitedly looking forward to next year's events.

One event that was not cancelled because of the recent severe weather was the 'Bring about Hope' chaplaincy dinner. The dinner was held at the Jinibara State School and recognised the hard work and valuable contributions of local school based chaplains. Along with the member for Kallangur, I attended this dinner and was pleased to join with other attendees in celebrating the messages of hope and contentment and the support provided by local chaplains. I especially acknowledge the hard work and compassion of Laura, who is the chaplain at Burpengary Meadows State School; Deb, who is the chaplain at Jinibara State School; Paul, who is the chaplain at Narangba Valley State School; and Steve, who is the chaplain at Narangba Valley State High School. The oversight, leadership and support provided by Carina from SU Queensland and Jenny Dobbin, who is the SU Queensland area manager, should also be acknowledged.

The dinner was a particularly enjoyable evening, with entertainment being provided by local artists Freak Morice and Candice Long. ABC commentator Phil Smith was the guest speaker. I congratulate the organisers on the success of the dinner event and trust that the funds raised will continue to support the good work of chaplaincy in schools in the Morayfield state electorate.