



Speech by

Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

Hansard Thursday, 17 September 2009

MUDGEERABA ELECTORATE, NAPLAN RESULTS

Ms BATES (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (6.19 pm): With the release of the 2009 NAPLAN outcomes, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a number of schools in my electorate which have made improvements in their results. The principals and teachers from these schools—these educators of our future generations—are to be congratulated and applauded: Clover Hill State School, Gold Coast Christian College, King's Christian College, Merrimac State School, Mudgeeraba Creek State School and Mudgeeraba State School.

Finally, there is a little school up in the hinterland which has six children enrolled in year 3, three children in year 5 and five children in year 7. Yet compare this school's results against the bigger schools, and the results per student ratio clearly favour the wonderful work done at Springbrook State School. I would like to acknowledge and congratulate principal Sheryle Croft, the teachers and students on their excellent results.

I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the schools' P&C and P&F committees. These selfless people make an enormous contribution through the organisation of school fetes, raffles and many other ventures to raise funds to benefit the students and the schools. Since being elected I have enjoyed meeting these wonderful people and attending their P&C and P&F meetings whenever I can.

I recently attended the Emmanuel College fete last month and I thoroughly enjoyed watching their talent show. The Hillcrest Christian College also recently held its fete, and the Mudgeeraba State School annual spring fair is being held tomorrow, which I will be attending. I would encourage all parents, family and friends to attend the fetes of their local schools or those that their children or grandchildren attend. It is your support at these events that greatly benefits the students and the school.

There are a number of state primary schools in my electorate. In fact, out of the eight primary schools, there are four located within a five-kilometre radius of each other. Enrolment figures released earlier this year showed that 50,000 students attend state schools which are at 100 per cent capacity. I have lodged a question on notice to the Minister for Education and Training regarding the catchment areas for Mudgeeraba Creek State School and Clover Hill State School to ensure neither one is at a disadvantage. I look forward to receiving the minister's response on this matter.

There is currently only one high school in my electorate—Robina State High School—which is already operating at 80 per cent capacity and can only accept approximately 400 more enrolments before reaching full capacity. I have started a petition calling for a feasibility study for a new state high school west of the M1. This is being signed by parents with children attending local kindergartens and even grandparents, and I look forward to tabling this petition shortly.