



Speech by

Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MORAYFIELD STATE HIGH SCHOOL; NARANGBA VALLEY STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Mr RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (9.17 pm): All the schools in the Morayfield state electorate are outstanding educational institutions, and I am very privileged to represent those school communities in the Queensland parliament. As I have done in the past, I would like to publicly acknowledge the hard work, dedication and professionalism of the teachers, staff and students of the schools of the Morayfield state electorate.

I take this opportunity to provide members of this House with an update of developments at two schools in the Morayfield state electorate. This year, 2010, will be a busy year for the students and teachers of Morayfield State High School. The school community will see not only progress on a number of building projects—including a trade training centre, Building the Education Revolution works and State Schools of Tomorrow works—but also increased excitement about their academic and vocational successes.

The Morayfield State High School community should be very proud, as I am very proud, of their magnificent year 12 results. Two students of the school achieved OP1s. I have on a number of occasions had the great pleasure of meeting with students of this outstanding school and I was very impressed by the numbers of students wanting to pursue a career in teaching. In my mind there is no greater tribute to the commitment and professionalism of an educator than for a student to follow in their footsteps. I am very much looking forward to attending the year 12 2010 student investiture next week.

The Narangba Valley State High School community also has much to celebrate. Not only did five students achieve OP1s but I am informed that no year 12 student failed English or mathematics. This is a truly magnificent result and is a result that I do not think many other schools in Queensland can claim credit for. If you ever wanted an example of young people who are role models, who are people of integrity, who have a positive view to the future and who are outstanding advocates for their school and their community, then you need go no further than the students of Narangba Valley State High School and Morayfield State High School.

Sadly, tragedy struck Narangba Valley State High School over the school holidays. On 31 December 2009, four classrooms were seriously damaged by fire in a suspected arson attack. What makes this tragedy worse is that the damaged classrooms were art classrooms, and many irreplaceable and invaluable pieces of student and teacher artwork were destroyed. Whilst this incident is devastating for me and the school community, I am grateful to the many staff and parents who took time out of their holidays to assist with the initial response and the cleanup and reconstruction efforts. I particularly acknowledge the contributions made by the principal, Mr Ross Mackay; the deputy principal, Mr Sean Bennett; parents, Wendy and Grant Clarke; Fay Jeppesen from the department; and the team from QBuild.