




Speech by

Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Hansard Thursday, 4 August 2011

GREENSLOPES ELECTORATE, EDUCATION

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Greenslopes—ALP) (Minister for Education and Industrial Relations) (9.01 pm): A good education is the cornerstone of a happy, successful life and good schools are the building blocks of cohesive, caring communities. The Greenslopes electorate is well served by a number of excellent schools staffed by hardworking and dedicated teachers educating bright and inquisitive students.

The last couple of weeks have been a blue-ribbon period for Greenslopes schools, and I have been lucky to attend a number of great local events. At Coorparoo State School I presented badges to the green team class representatives. The green team work closely with the school's science coordinators, Christine Barker and Jenny Rienks, to lead the school on environmental and sustainability issues. This is a great initiative, and congratulations must go to Principal Keith Warwick, his staff and students.

I have also been privileged to attend two Building the Education Revolution building openings. The BER program has been a fantastic initiative which has given a once-in-a-generation boost to schools right across Queensland. Mount Gravatt East State School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School have both benefited from new multipurpose halls and resource centres. Both openings were wonderful events, but I would like to make special mention of Mount Gravatt East State School's fife marching band and its conductor, Sandi Meibusch, and the choir, conducted by Sophie Hodgson. The performance of both groups is further proof of the wonderful music programs on offer in Queensland state schools. On the subject of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School, I would like to congratulate the girls under-12 AFL team, which yesterday won the grand final of the Carol Berry Cup at the Gabba. This follows on from a runners-up performance in 2010. Congratulations to coach Luke Thomson and all the students.

I also had the opportunity to participate in ABC 612's Student Press Corps. This unique program gives school students the opportunity to grill industry experts, businesspeople and politicians about issues that matter to young people. I was questioned by four tenacious Coorparoo Secondary College students—Lewis Webb, Josh Nicol, Temika Ahsam and Jordanah Chan. The students had all done their research and it was almost as tough as question time. I am sure the students have great careers in journalism ahead of them.

The Greenslopes community is not just producing budding journalists. Our schools are also producing some fantastic musicians. Over the school holidays three of our best young musicians took part in workshops as part of the state schools Creative Generation extravaganza.

Ms Jones: A fantastic program.

Mr DICK: I take the interjection from the member for Ashgrove. It is a fantastic program. I had the opportunity to listen to Jenna Brown, a backing vocalist from Coorparoo Secondary College; Jarrod Chambers, a trombone player from Cavendish Road State High School; and Elizabeth Jackson, a violin player from Holland Park State High School.

Finally, congratulations are in order for everyone involved with C&K Coorparoo Kindergarten. The kindergarten celebrated its 50th anniversary on Saturday, 23 July 2011. I was pleased to be able to attend the celebration. Particular congratulations must go to Mr and Mrs Bob and Olive Thacker of Holland Park who helped build the kindy back in 1961 and who were present at the celebration. The kindy was a linchpin of our community back then, and it is just as important today.