




Speech by

Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Hansard Tuesday, 19 June 2012

KINGAROY STATE HIGH SCHOOL, BUSINESS LUNCH

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (9.32 pm): On Friday, 1 June I had the pleasure of attending the Kingaroy State High School annual 'business lunch'. The lunch has been held each year for the past 10 years to mark Education Week and provides a great opportunity to showcase the school and the achievements of the students, staff and partners of the school to the broader Kingaroy community. It is also an opportunity for the school community to thank local businesses for their ongoing support of the school. In particular, I would like to mention Ken Mills of Ken Mills Toyota for his support of the school's instrumental music program and Swickers, pork processors, for their donation over a period of three years of \$10,000, enabling the school to purchase new sports uniforms.

There were more than 30 participants at the lunch and they were all thanked for their support. The service was of a very high quality. The food was amazing and absolutely delicious. It was prepared by the catering operations students and served by the students studying hospitality studies. There were over 30 students involved in the preparation of the lunch. This event enables the students to be assessed for their vocational education role in the school.

During the lunch, we learnt of many of the recent school highlights. One of which was that stage 1 of the Performing Arts Complex is nearing completion. This has been a long-term project for the school and the community and one which has required the building of important partnerships between the P&C, the South Burnett Regional Council and the education department. This will be a remarkable venue, not just for the students of Kingaroy State High School but for the entire community. We were also told on the day that 76.4 per cent of the students achieved an overall position of 1 to 15, which is well above the state average. Seventy students are involved in the Active Citizens Program this year, and students and staff have an opportunity of visiting Japan during the upcoming June-July school holidays. The school has secured regional arts development funding for visiting author James Moloney, a popular author of teen fiction, to work with our year 8s and year 11s on creative writing.

I would also like to mention that a member of this House was a previous past student. Steven Davies, the member for Capalaba, is a previous student of this school. I commend the Kingaroy State High School for providing the opportunity for the broader community to learn more about the school. It is through events such as these that we truly do encourage and strengthen community links to ensure that our young people are cared for, nurtured and encouraged throughout their time at school and well beyond.