




Speech by
John Grant

MEMBER FOR SPRINGWOOD

Hansard Wednesday, 20 June 2012

SHAILER PARK STATE SCHOOL

 **Mr GRANT** (Springwood—LNP) (11.47 pm): I rise to speak on the nature and accomplishments of Shailer Park State School, located in my electorate of Springwood. Against the power of the private schools with which it competes, Shailer Park State School has had to reinvent itself to create new and focused specialities and specific areas of education at which it strives for excellence. Dance and science and technology are but two of the features that were on display at a recent event I attended at the school. The school was launching its Shailer Park Gold school video featuring many fantastic activities that are occurring at the school, including dance, art, technology, sports, academics, science and collaborative learning, to name just a few.

I commend Mrs Kym Amor, the principal of Shailer Park primary school, for the enthusiastic manner in which she leads the students in her care. At the function during which the video was launched, school dance groups the Shailerettes and the Shailer Park dance teams performed for a large audience. These teams compete across the state and perform at a range of venues, including the Ekka.

The names of the school captains are Tiala Troutman, Maya Bennett, Jayden Kelly and Timothy Essebies. Maya did extremely well at the National Gymnastics Championships held in Sydney recently, winning gold for ribbon and hoop, silver for clubs and silver for all round in level 8 International. As Queensland champion, Maya has been selected for the Australian National Team to compete in New Zealand in October. Mr Tim Muske serves the students as the school chaplain.

I enjoyed watching the students involved in the science program receive a solar scope to view the recent transit of Venus. The school runs an Excellence in Science and Technology program, which includes a specialist year 6/7 science class that uses a range of 21st century learning fluencies and technologies to extend students who have a passion for and/or excel in these areas. This is but a snippet of excellence practised by the teachers and students at Shailer Park State School.

I want to inform parliament of the real challenges faced by staff at the school because there is an urgent need to remove asbestos from port racks and awnings within the school. This is a current, common and real challenge for virtually all of the state schools in my electorate. Nevertheless, I commend Mrs Amor and Shailer Park State School staff for their tireless efforts and many sacrifices in ensuring that the children in their care receive the very best education. Our schools are filled with such dedicated teachers and support staff who dedicate their lives week in, week out to building our collective future by educating our children.