




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 31 October 2013

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Caningeraba State School

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (3.38 pm): I would have to agree that the electorate of Sunnybank has great potential now that it has a great new member. I say that about every member on this side of the House. I rise to draw the attention of the House to an issue in my electorate—the great electorate of Burleigh on the southern Gold Coast.

Mr Gibson: They've got a great member.

Mr HART: They have. I take that interjection from the member for Gympie. Recently I had discussions with the principal of Caningeraba State School, Ray McConnell, and P&C president, Marsha Graham, about road safety along Whistler Drive and the streets around Caningeraba State School. The discussion we had led to some concern about the safety of students at that school.

For the benefit of the House, the school is located near Christine Avenue and Dunlin Drive in Burleigh. Christine Avenue is one of the main thoroughfares of the southern Gold Coast. It intersects with Bermuda Street. There is a lot of traffic along those streets. The streets around Caningeraba State School are used as a bit of a rat run. People cut through from Christine Avenue into Dunlin Drive and into Burleigh proper. The main concerns that were brought to my attention during our discussion were the large volume of vehicles travelling in the area during peak hours around school drop-off and pick-up times and the disregard people had for the stipulated speed limit during those times.

I am of the opinion that added reinforcement of the speed limit will be beneficial for not only the school but also the nearby residents and the greater community who use the road frequently. As the House is aware, the Newman government is committed to the safety of all Queenslanders, and the flashing school zone signage around schools is a proven way to boost safety around school zones. The signs act as an extra reminder for parents and other motorists to slow down in and around school areas while other Queenslanders make their way to and from school. Since my election I have been advocating for the installation of flashing school zone signs around Caningeraba State School. In particular, the P&C president, the school principal and I are of the opinion that that will dramatically increase road safety around the precinct.

To that extent, I have put out a petition that the P&C president and the school will be circulating around the area. I urge people in the local community to go online and to seek out that petition and add their name to the list and add to the school safety around Burleigh. As you may have gathered, Madam Deputy Speaker, I am a strong advocate for school safety in and around my electorate of Burleigh.