




Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2015

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Schools, Road Safety

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (2.36 pm): Everyone in this House would acknowledge that road safety plays such a critical part in protecting everyone here in the state of Queensland but especially important is road safety around our schools. Like no doubt all MPs in this House, I am passionate about improving road safety around each of the 18 schools in the amazing electorate of Glass House. I am passionate about advocating for 40-kilometre zones. I am very grateful for the hard work of the P&C president at Montville State School, Kate Beard, and I also acknowledge the TMR regional director, Amanda Yeates, who together after seven years of trying finally got 40-kilometre speed signs in Montville.

I am passionate about school crossing supervisors. Whilst many schools have volunteers and they do this out of love, some simply need to be paid because of the time taken to do what they have to do to protect our kids. As members would know, we are working on getting funded school crossing supervisors at Chevallum State School, and I am confident of good news very soon.

I am also very passionate about getting flashing school zone lights. We have been very successful in the Glass House today in already having these lights at Beerburrum, Elimbah, Wamuran, Woodford, Chevallum, Conondale and Mount Mee, but it is Peachester State School's turn. Earlier this week I tabled both an e-petition and a written petition from residents in and around Peachester calling for flashing school zone lights for the school. I thank P&C president Margie Jennings for leading the charge and collecting 78 e-petition signatures and 603 written signatures. That will now go off to the relevant minister, and I do hope the minister will give this serious consideration.

Peachester State School is a bit unusual. It is on a main road—the road that connects Beerwah through to Kilcoy—but it is set back from the main road and unless you know the area you would not necessarily know there is a school there. For some time that has been used as the justification for not putting in flashing school zones, but the fact that they do not know the school is there is exactly the reason why they should be putting flashing school zone lights there. It is also a very heavily utilised tourist route connecting the Sunshine Coast with the South Burnett and Darling Downs. Many people simply do not know the speed limit through that area and need an extra reminder to know there are kids about, they need to slow down, they need to take a little extra time in getting through Peachester. Most importantly, they need to keep the kids at Peachester State School safe. Again, I thank Margie and her team. We had a fantastic day at the Peachester State School fair collecting signatures. I am very confident that when the minister sees the petition and the amount of support it has that we will be successful in getting flashing school zone lights.

(Time expired)