




Speech By
Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

Record of Proceedings, 4 June 2015

ADJOURNMENT

Robina State High School

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (12.07 am): The safety of staff, students and facilities at Robina State High School has been secured after the school confirmed this week that, following representations by the member for Mermaid Beach and me, security fencing would be installed around the school's perimeter following a series of incidents involving vandalism and trespassing. I worked hard with the school community to deliver the security fencing following this major vandalism at the school last month, which damaged five buildings and caused over \$280,000 in damage. I am pleased that we have been able to deliver a positive outcome after urgently writing to the education minister following the incident to request the fencing be installed as soon as possible. I was deeply concerned when I heard about the shocking vandalism which occurred at Robina State High School just a few weeks ago.

Robina State High School is particularly susceptible to instances of trespassing and vandalism due to its visibility and close proximity to Robina train station, Robina Hospital, Cbus Stadium and Robina Town Centre. In a series of letters since early May, the member for Mermaid Beach, Ray Stevens, and I have urged the education minister to implement the security upgrade, as I mentioned. I am pleased to have been able to deliver this much-needed upgrade to secure the safety of our school community, and I am sure that the staff and the students of Robina State High School will feel much safer as they go to school each day. I understand that measurements have already been taken and a quote has been sought from a contractor for the work to begin in the very near future.

Robina State High School parent Larissa Collins said that she was thankful a solution could be found and implemented so quickly. She stated—

Two of my children go to Robina State High School and the school community has been devastated by recent vandalism and trespassing.

The safety of my children and their learning environment is very important to me, and we are very pleased this security fencing will be installed as soon as possible.

I take this opportunity to thank Di Loddon and the members of the Robina State High School P&C for their determination in having this issue resolved. I thank Julie Warwick, our fantastic, proactive principal, for ensuring that the P&C and I had the support of the school to achieve this positive outcome. I also thank the Minister for Education for acting swiftly in this regard to ensure that the only state high school in the electorate of Mudgeeraba is now protected from further acts of vandalism.

It was great to host the school leaders of Robina State High School today in Parliament, with whom you spent some time, Mr Speaker, and I thank you for that—young Matthew Ho and Tiana Reardon, the school captains; Nicholas Boyan and Emily Forden, school vice captains; and Anna Reaburn, the student council president. I say thank you also to Mr Ben Weeks, head of department of the junior secondary school, for accompanying the students. I hope that they all had a very informative day. It was a pleasure to host some of our potential community leaders.