




Speech By
Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Burpengary State School

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (11.01 pm): Last month, the Burpengary State School celebrated a very important milestone: its 140th anniversary of providing exceptional academic opportunities for the young people of the Burpengary community. While Queensland's first school opened in 1826, the opening of Burpengary State School in 1876 still makes it one of the oldest continuing state schools in Queensland. Current school Principal, Brad Fox, provided a great history of the school at the official 140th anniversary celebrations and school fete on Saturday, 10 September 2016, and there is certainly lots to celebrate in the school's history. The first school building at Burpengary was a slab hut with a bark roof. It had an earth floor, covered in part by strips of stringy bark, and was roughly furnished. There was one small window. In 1879 a storm tore the roof off and it had to be rebuilt. In 1889, a new purpose-built school building was constructed at the cost of 70 pounds. It measured eight metres by five metres. This simple wooden building endured until 1956, when it was demolished to make way for the construction of other buildings.

Since those early times, Burpengary State School has grown into one of the biggest primary schools in the Caboolture region. The school has been honoured to have exceptional school leadership, exceptional teachers and school staff and exceptional students throughout its history. It is this outstanding record that has caused Burpengary State School to be consistently recognised for its impressive academic outcomes and its strong community spirit. Perhaps this is why His Excellency, Sir Peter Cosgrove, Governor-General of Australia, sent his best wishes to the school community by video on the celebration day and last week visited the school in person to offer his belated birthday wishes. It may also be why the celebration day was so well attended by the Burpengary community including past students and community leaders such as the federal member for Longman, Susan Lamb, state member for Murrumba, Chris Whiting, and Councillor Peter Flannery. It was certainly a pleasant surprise to also have our Premier, Anastacia Palaszczuk, drop by the celebrations and help turn the sod on the school's \$1.5 million hall renovation project. The state government, the school, the school's P&C Association in partnership with Caboolture Basketball are very proud to be partnering to deliver this project, which will be open for use in 2017.

The school's celebration day was held in conjunction with the school fete. The fete was a cracker event and was well supported by the community. Special thanks must go to school Principal Brad Fox and his team including Deputy Principal Samantha Waldron, P&C President Wayne Summersford and his P&C team and all the students who made it a great day.