




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

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ADJOURNMENT

McDowall State School P&C Association; Picabeen Community Association

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (10.40 pm): I rise tonight to congratulate one of the groups in my community and that is the McDowall State School P&C Association. On Saturday night at the P&C awards they were named the P&C Association of the Year. It is something that is incredibly well deserved. Over the last 18 months they have gone through a major transformation. They have always been a very effective P&C but in the last 18 months they have undertaken a whole series of reforms which has turned this P&C association into a well-oiled machine. They have a new structure. They have been through a branding exercise with a little motto 'raising hands to raise our children'. They have conducted a parental engagement exercise well and come up with a challenge to parents: what will be the one thing that you will do this term? They are preparing already for the 2017 fair. They have raised an incredible amount of money. They are building a \$1.7 million sports centre. Believe it or not, most of that money—over \$1 million—has been raised by the P&C association. This is quite incredible. They have recently advertised for an operations manager. How many P&C associations do honourable members know that have an operations manager? This is a volunteer group that has really gone well beyond the normal expectations of a P&C. I want to congratulate Soraya Bews, the P&C president, her executive and all the members of the P&C. They have done a great job and they thoroughly deserve that award.

I also want to acknowledge the Picabeen Community Association, which is actually in the electorate of the member for Ashgrove. It is on the border but services constituents in Ashgrove, Ferny Grove and Everton. It does a fabulous job. Their long-serving director, Jillian Warren, is leaving in the very near future to take up a job in the government. Jillian has done a great job. She has an engaging style, is incredibly friendly and her ability to engage with volunteers has meant that Picabeen has been an incredibly effective organisation. They run a whole range of different services for the community: parental support, tough love program, yoga, literacy classes, intro to computers, playgroup, conversational English, a men's wellbeing group—you name it; they do it. They are involved in anything that helps the community. I say: congratulations, Jillian. We are going to miss you. All the best for your future endeavours.