



Speech By  
**Trevor Watts**


**MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH**

---

Record of Proceedings, 25 February 2016

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Kahler, Mr B; Toowoomba North Electorate, Schools**

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (6.41 pm): Tonight I want to give the House an update on some of the schools in my electorate and some of the activities that are going on, but before I do that I want to pay tribute to a member of the party and someone who was the chairman of a branch for over 30 years in my area—Bevan Joseph Kahler, who passed away on 3 January this year. He left behind his widow, Bev, and his children and grandchildren. Bevan was a great person who did an awful lot of work for, originally, the National Party and then later the LNP in our region. He was a councillor for Crows Nest council and he loved life on the Darling Downs, he loved farming, he loved fishing and, more than anything, he loved his family. He was a great person. It was a pleasure to know him. He always treated my children like they were his own grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by everybody who knew him, but he leaves this world better for having been here.

I want to give the House a quick update on some of the education issues going on in my electorate. The Wilsonton and Mount Lofty campuses have been given permission to separate. I think this is a good thing and I look forward to the community being empowered to make the decision as to whether these two campuses should go forward with their own identities. I want to be clear that that is not dependent on getting a hall at Wilsonton. I think that each of these campuses should be able to forge their own identity. They both have over 800 students now and therefore I think it is a good thing that that permission has been given. With regard to the Wilsonton hall, I urge the minister to ensure that in this year's budget the money is allocated for an arts, performance and sports hall to be built at the campus. Something that government members might be interested in is that the Newtown State School's fete is coming up and I will be in the dunking machine. I invite members to put some money in the P&C and come and throw balls at me and make sure I get very wet. I am hoping it is a warm day, but I would encourage everybody to come along and invest their money. Tomorrow morning I will have the pleasure of going to Fairview Heights and inducting the leaders of the school, and I appreciate the school giving me the invitation to do that. With regard to Highfields stage 2 of the high school, the tenders have gone out. That was a great project that was brought to fruition by the LNP. It is obviously a staged growth as students move into year 10 to ensure that those facilities are available. That will give jobs to people in Highfields and in the surrounding areas in Toowoomba and obviously provide a great educational opportunity for the children of Highfields.