




Speech By
Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 23 March 2017

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Murrumba Electorate, Schools

 **Mr WHITING** (Murrumba—ALP) (2.36 pm): I rise to inform the House of the \$5 million new multipurpose hall at Bounty Boulevard State School, now funded as part of our \$200 million Advancing Queensland Schools package. After the announcement by the Premier and the Minister for Education I shared the good news with the school community. As members would understand, they were very happy indeed.

I have been campaigning with the Bounty Boulevard State School leadership team and the community for this hall ever since I was elected two years ago. Now they will have a fit-for-purpose venue to host assemblies, events and indoor sports. I congratulate the school leadership team of Bounty Boulevard State School, the P&C and the broader school community for those efforts in working with us to secure this funding. I also pay tribute to the advocacy of the Minister for Education, Kate Jones.

This is just one of the great education projects that the Palaszczuk government is delivering in our area. Some \$32 million of funding has been allocated for new and refurbished classrooms at schools in Deception Bay, North Lakes, Rothwell and Mango Hill. Some of the highlights of this \$32 million we have allocated includes the new \$15 million multistorey classroom block at North Lakes State College which is on the way. Mango Hill State School has finished a \$4.1 million classroom building for the opening of this year and straightaway had to start work on a \$7 million one. This will soon, we think, be the largest primary school in Queensland.

We also allocated \$3.8 million for the construction of additional classrooms at Bounty Boulevard State School. There is \$500 million for the refurbishment of Deception Bay schools. The Lakes College has received \$930,000 to assist with the construction of a new block. Some \$190,000 went to the great school St Benedict's.

Alongside this investment in our existing schools there has been a new school opened up—Griffin State School, which is a marvellous school. I am so pleased that we have achieved all of this because making sure that our kids get the best education possible is one of my highest priorities. Making sure all schools get the facilities they need to deliver that high-quality education reflects my values of an equitable education for all.

These projects also reflect the values that are displayed by this government. We see those values in what the Minister for Education said today. She said every child deserves the best possible education. Once again, we see those values in the scale of what we have delivered to education as a government. We have delivered more than \$1.3 billion in capital to build new schools, stages of schools and new classrooms as well. We will also deliver 875 extra teachers. These values I can say are also shared by people such as Dr Claus Jorgenson, associate professor at Aarhus University in Denmark, who is visiting us today. He is another great educator who believes in the values of education which are at the core of this government.

(Time expired)