




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Rockhampton Electorate, Schools

 **Mr O'ROURKE** (Rockhampton—ALP) (7.16 pm): I have had the great pleasure of attending a couple of school events over the past couple of months. It is such a privilege to be able to present leadership badges to our future school leavers. I attended Emmaus College's opening school prayer for 2018 and the leadership badge presentations. Emmaus College is a coeducational secondary Catholic college in Rockhampton with a student population of approximately 1,300 children. It has two campuses: one for middle school, for years 7, 8 and 9, and a secondary school campus for years 10, 11 and 12. While attending this function I met an old school friend from my secondary school days, Eamon Hannan, who is the school principal there. It was great to have a yarn to him and talk about our old school days and how things have improved significantly. Gone are the days of getting the strap for not getting your spelling correct or talking in class.

I also visited Glenmore State School and met principal Mark Dunlop. Glenmore State School is located next to Glenmore State High School, just a couple of kilometres along the highway from Central Queensland University. Glenmore State School is ideally situated within an educational precinct with families able to receive education for their children from prep through to university. The school has approximately 440 children enrolled and it is staffed by 17 dedicated teachers and admin support staff. After presenting the leadership badges I also attended the school leadership creed. This was followed by a great morning tea with future student leaders. We are so fortunate in Central Queensland and Rockhampton to have a university at our doorstep.

Next was Depot Hill State School with principal Elizabeth Jacobson. Depot Hill State School has been servicing the Depot Hill area in Rockhampton since 1920. The school caters for students from prep to year 6. Depot Hill State School also provides a warm, supportive environment where all students are given the best opportunities to reach their potential. The school is also set in a rural environment.

I would like to acknowledge the great teaching staff and admin staff we have in Rockhampton. They do an excellent job.