




Speech By
Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Buderim Electorate, Education

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (2.30 pm): I rise today to address the issue of school funding across the Buderim electorate. During my maiden speech I spoke of the excellent primary and secondary schools that sit within the electorate. Buderim is a hub of education and many families move into the Buderim electorate specifically so that their children can attend the high-quality public and private schools in Buderim, Sippy Downs, Mountain Creek and Brightwater. I am concerned, however, that without additional investment in schools across the Buderim electorate the significant growth in student numbers which has been experienced to date and is expected to continue for the foreseeable future will result in worse student outcomes and impacts on the community more broadly.

I welcome the commitment to invest \$22 million to build a new three-storey senior learning centre at Mountain Creek State High School that I recently received from the Minister for Education. This investment will see capacity at the school increase from 2,580 to 3,269. I congratulate the minister for recognising this population growth and the increasing pressures and demand on local schools, many of which, like Mountain Creek, are bursting at the seams.

The rapidly expanding population in the Palmview area will require new schools to be built in order to ease pressure on the existing school networks across the Buderim electorate. With an additional 16,000 people expected to move into the Palmview area in coming years, now is the time for the government to commit to funding a new primary and secondary school. The government needs to commit to this funding to ensure that the influx of new residents does not cause overcrowding in the first place.

Chancellor State College is one of the best performing state schools in Queensland. However, this high performance will be under threat if the current growth in student numbers is not supported with additional investment. Issues like traffic congestion on Scholars Drive mean that parents are unable to pick up their children within an acceptable time frame. While Scholars Drive is a council road, congestion there is only due to the construction of Chancellor State College's primary campus on that road, so the state definitely has a role in helping to solve this problem. Further to my question on notice to the Premier on 6 April 2018, I again call on the government to stop abrogating its responsibilities in this area and to work in concert with the council to solve this longstanding problem of congestion around Chancellor State College's primary campus.

Like those schools I have already mentioned, Brightwater State School has also experienced significant growth in recent years. This growth has been due to the excellent educational outcomes being delivered by teachers at Brightwater State School and also to the expansion of the Sunshine Coast University Hospital. In order to support the growth in student numbers from 1,028 to 1,200, investment is required to build additional permanent classrooms. Currently, shared spaces in the school

library are used for lessons due to excess student numbers. This is unacceptable and I call on the government to support the growth in student numbers at Brightwater State School through additional funding.

Public schools across the Buderim electorate currently deliver excellent educational outcomes. However, further investment is required in order to support future growth.