




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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ADJOURNMENT

Woodridge Electorate, Secondary Schools

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (7.04 pm): One of the very great privileges of my role as a state member for Woodridge is the opportunity that it gives me to visit many of our great local schools. Tonight the tables are turned as representatives of six schools that educate students from the Woodridge electorate visit me here at Parliament House. I am delighted to welcome to the people's house principals, deputy principals, parents and students from Mabel Park State High School, Marsden State High School, Browns Plains State High School, Woodridge State High School, St Francis College and Kingston College who are in the gallery tonight.

I never cease to be impressed by the outstanding work of the dedicated principals, teachers and staff who guide the next generation of Woodridge students through their school years. I am equally impressed by the outstanding achievements of school students in the Woodridge electorate.

Mabel Park State High School continues to live up to its reputation as a trailblazer in vocational education, delivering courses as diverse as health care, hospitality, tourism, digital media and engineering. Last year, Mabel Park High began an innovative certificate course in drone piloting. This Queensland first will help deliver new economy jobs to local Woodridge students.

Kingston College has gone from strength to strength over the past year through its partnerships with universities, government, business and industry to deliver future oriented education options. As the only Logan school accredited as a Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy school, Kingston College students have the opportunity to participate in STEM programs and robotics subjects which connect them to future careers in the mining industry in Queensland.

Marsden State High School students are renowned for their passion, pride and persistence on the sporting field, in the arts and in the classroom. Marsden High is a nursery of sporting excellence, with former students including Maroons and Kangaroos Rugby League champion Cameron Smith and dual international Israel Folau. Just this week, year 12 student Tesi Niu, who has already been snapped up by the mighty Brisbane Broncos, was named in the Australian schoolboys Rugby League team to tour Great Britain later this year. Hopefully more sporting champions will start their careers in activities held in the school's newly opened \$5.8 million multipurpose centre of excellence, which was funded by the Palaszczuk Labor government.

Browns Plains State High School recently celebrated their success in the 2018 Stretton Maths Team Challenge. The school entered 40 of their top mathematics students and both the junior and senior teams won third place—a fantastic achievement.

I am also pleased to welcome representatives of St Francis College, Crestmead. Last year I had the pleasure of launching their new health hub. Health hubs have been established at both Mabel Park State High School and St Francis College. Replica hospital wards teach students the basics of health care and open their eyes to future careers in the health industry.

I am delighted that Woodridge State High School's Change Makers Project was recently recognised as a finalist in the Queensland Multicultural Awards. The Woodridge State High School band Sounds of Unity—the best and most appropriately named band in Logan—have just returned from the national RockFest competition in Canberra.

Whether it be on the sporting field, in academic pursuits, in vocational training, in artistic endeavours and in strong and positive community leadership, Woodridge secondary schools are the best in Queensland.