



Speech By Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 22 March 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Member for Mansfield, First Speech

Ms McMILLAN (Mansfield—ALP) (6.04 pm): I would like to thank a range of people. I thank Ian, Victoria and Ben, who ensure the smooth operations of my office and for their tireless commitment to the people of Mansfield. I thank the tenacious and hardworking members of the Mansfield branch and for their commitment to the great Labor cause. I acknowledge previous members representing the seat of Mansfield. Phil Reeves served the people of Mansfield for 14 years. I also would like to recognise and acknowledge more recently Ian Walker. I thank him for his contribution.

I thank the broader education community for placing its faith in me and for recognising my capabilities before I saw them myself. Our Queensland schools' deliberate and precise performance agenda and the leadership of education in Queensland is as strong as it has ever been. To the hundreds of teachers and school staff who supported my campaign and to the 45,000 teachers and thousands of non-teaching staff across Queensland schools, I say to them that I understand what they do, I value what they do and I will always support them. To my wonderful colleagues and thousands of students over the years, I say to them that their support was a gift that allowed me to achieve more than I could ever have imagined. Now, I want to do the same for them.

To the mighty Queensland Teachers' Union, of which some members are in the gallery today, which over 23 years has been my voice and the voice of my colleagues, I thank it for supporting my leadership of more than six school communities and its continued support today.

Finally, I thank my family for bestowing on me the values and beliefs that have guided me through life. The constant love, support and understanding of my family and closest friends has been my greatest companion in my life as a school leader as I know it will continue to be as a busy politician.

I come to this role with a deep respect for the parliament of Queensland and the democratic function it serves. I take seriously my responsibility as a member of this House, both in representing the needs of the people of Mansfield and contributing thoughtfully to the deliberations that will shape a legacy of which this 56th Parliament can be proud.

All of us aspire to leave the world a better place than we found it. Doing so takes will and courage. It also takes capability and opportunity. I thank the people of Mansfield for their faith in me and for this opportunity. Like their child's teacher, and their child's school principal, I will not disappoint them.