




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Waterford Electorate, Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (7.21 pm): Tonight I rise to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of two schools in my local Waterford community—Mabel Park State High School and Marsden State High School. Both schools were among the 23 finalists for the 2018 Showcase Awards for Excellence. Logan has more cultural representation than New York City, so to see schools like Marsden and Mabel Park truly celebrate this diversity means that it really is a privilege to represent them. Last week I had the honour of joining Marsden State High School along with my colleague the member for Woodridge, Cameron Dick, to open its new centre of excellence and I witnessed a celebration of the students' cultural diversity and athletic success.

Marsden High is a top sporting school with excellence programs in Rugby League, football and basketball, producing sporting legends such as Cameron Smith, Israel Folau and Angie Beard. Marsden High students are also encouraged and supported to pursue their careers. The school has a construction and engineering trade training centre. Students travel annually to NASA's Johnson Space Center to pursue their STEM ambitions and they have a world-class hospitality excellence program which recently catered for athletes during the Commonwealth Games. Principal Andrew Peach and his team embody the ethos of success and it is impossible to leave the school without feeling inspired by their passion.

Mabel Park State High School is another incredible school delivering for our community and creating Logan's leaders of tomorrow. Principal Mick Hornby and his staff do a tremendous job equipping students for life beyond the school gates. Stacey King was the winner of last year's Australian Teacher of the Year in STEM. She created GEMS—Girls in Engineering, Maths and Science—to encourage girls to engage in STEM courses. Mabel Park is the only school in Australia delivering a Certificate III in Aviation to teach students to use drones—skills which are rapidly increasing in demand. To encourage students to take advantage of job opportunities in the aged-care sector, Mabel Park has also established the innovative health training hub where students complete a Certificate II in Individual Support (Health) and it has great partnerships with the Logan Hospital.

Finally tonight while I am on my feet I want to give a special shout-out to Beenleigh Tennis which today finally won a vote of elected Logan city councillors to allow it to retain its lease over the tennis courts at Beenleigh. This is a win for the good guys. It is a fantastic grassroots community club that has been in Beenleigh for over 40 years, providing world-class training and coaching and always going above and beyond to give back to our community. I want to thank the club, its members and the member for Macalister, Melissa McMahon, who have all been advocating and fighting to save this wonderful club. We fought so hard to keep this club alive over the last few months. Congratulations to Beenleigh Tennis.