




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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ADJOURNMENT

Woodridge Electorate, Schools

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (6.23 pm): When I was first elected as the state member for Woodridge, I made a commitment to our community to work hard to improve access to better health care, particularly better public health care, to create pathways to the dignity that only work can provide and to support our mighty local educators and schools. When it comes to education, 2019 is a special year for the Woodridge electorate as our community celebrates some significant anniversaries and milestones in our local schools.

In 2019 we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Regents Park State School, the 30th anniversary of Crestmead State School and the 50th anniversaries of Woodridge North State School and St Paul's Catholic Primary School Woodridge. Tonight I am delighted to welcome to the gallery of the Legislative Assembly principals, parents, teachers and staff from many of the primary schools in the electorate of Woodridge, including Berrinba East State School, Browns Plains State School, Burrowes State School, Crestmead State School, Kingston State School, Logan City Special School, Marsden State School, Woodridge State School, St Francis College Crestmead and St Paul's Primary School.

I was reminded of the importance and value of education in our community when I read the recently released history of St Paul's Primary School collated by the principal, Matt Mackinlay, and a long-term Queensland Catholic educator, Mr Brian Moffett. In their covering letter, Brian and Matt wrote that 'the history of Logan, of Woodridge and of St Paul's is replete with stories of people's goodness, bravery and resilience, generosity and humour'. Never have truer words been written about our community. One of the stories they share in the book is the day the Governor visited St Paul's Primary School—a story I would like to share this evening. The book states—

The Governor of Queensland was coming to visit one of the local State Schools. A Logan Councillor suggested that he might visit St Paul's. This would have been stretching his tight schedule but he did it. His entourage came to the back car park. All the children were lined up. The Governor and his wife came over to speak to the children. One child, confusing what her teacher had explained about the Governor's role, asked the Governor's wife, "Are you the Queen?" Meanwhile, just at that time, the Australia Post mailman arrived on his delivery round. The children turned and left behind all the formality and greeted the mailman enthusiastically with smiles, waves and voices! It was the Postman who received the Royal treatment! In the spirit of St Paul's, our common humanity is our great equaliser. Everyone counts. Everyone matters.

This is not only the spirit and tradition of St Paul's; it is the spirit and tradition of the Woodridge state electorate and the spirit and tradition of education in our community. On behalf of our community, in the people's house I thank all of the principals, parents, teachers and staff who contribute so much to the great education story of the Woodridge electorate. Thank you for ensuring that everybody counts and everybody matters.