




Speech By
Jessica Pugh

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

Record of Proceedings, 4 April 2019

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Mount Ommaney Electorate

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (2.21 pm): Last week I rose in this House to pay tribute to Errol Slingsby, the now former principal of Oxley primary school. I attended his retirement party on the weekend. We said goodbye to our sheriff, our deputy of Oxley, after 10 years service. I am really crushed to be back this week to say goodbye to another Mount Ommaney principal, Meaghan Rodgers. Meaghan, as every Jindalee State School mum and dad knows, is an amazing leader and we are devastated to be losing her. She and her young family are moving home to regional Queensland and we wish them all the best.

One of the last things that Meaghan did was advocate for the expansion of the Jindalee State School zone to increase the school zone size by 100 metres and encapsulate a notorious trouble spot along Wongaburra Street. Jindalee State School is one of the biggest schools in my electorate, which has a wonderful active travel program led by Ben Harm, our wonderful local Adopt-a-Cop. Previously the school zone stopped right at the school gate on Wongaburra Street. However, thanks to representations from Principal Meaghan, the Jindalee P&C and caring and active parents like Tonya Turner, that has all changed and it now extends down past the oval where the Jindalee Jags, the Jindalee netball club and the Centenary Little Athletics play.

To members of this House who have not seen the site with their own eyes, it might not seem like much, but to my Jindalee community this is critical. As we know, our community members are our eyes and ears, and I am truly grateful that when they see an issue they contact me and let me know what is what. I was thrilled last year to hear from the Minister for Main Roads that Jindalee State School was going to get flashing school lights and the school was excited as well. They wanted to make sure that when those school lights were installed the school zone was extended down Wongaburra Street to ensure that entire stretch—that notorious dip in Wongaburra Street—was also included in the new school zone.

Luckily for school students, most parents would drive through this part of the road at 40 kilometres per hour. They would go under the speed limit to ensure the safety of our little school pedestrians, but we have had four near misses in the last few years. I was determined to make sure the minister's office understands that lives could be at stake if we did not see this school zone extended. We worked together as a community, and I am thrilled to announce that today those flashing lights in the new location were turned on for the very first time. I will be popping down tomorrow to visit them. I want to thank the minister's office for listening to me and listening to the school community at Jindalee. This is such a win for people power, for the hard work of the mums and dads of Jindalee, the P&C, the teachers and the principal.