




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Yarrabilba State High School

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.01 am): In 2012 I attended the graduation at the Logan Village State School. At the end of that there was a sad moment when we saw the children divide up to go to five different high schools—all of them 20 kilometres away. When I ran for the seat of Logan in 2012 and lost, one of the things that disappointed me the most was that I would not be there to really fight for a new high school for the Logan Village and Yarrabilba areas.

Upon running again in 2015, I was gutted that nothing had been done to bring forward a new high school—nothing at all. In fact, despite strong growth and many young families moving to the area, not one new classroom had been built in the Logan electorate—not one classroom. Logan parents do not forget that no new classrooms or schools were built or even planned by the LNP. The member for Nanango sat at the CBRC table cutting and sacking but could never build for the Logan community.

As soon as we were elected I urged the then member for Ashgrove and education minister to build new classrooms. We built a new six-classroom block at Logan Village. Then we followed up by building the new Yarrabilba State School. It quickly grew. Even before it opened I moved on to pushing for the new state high school. When the Premier and the education minister came to Yarrabilba on the first day of school to meet the students and open the school, I was already pointing over the ridge to the site of the future high school.

At first the department said we would never get the \$60 million needed. Together with the community, we went door to door and went to the mangle markets in Yarrabilba with a petition calling for the school. We gathered the facts about growth in the area and emphasised how long students had to travel to schools that already had a large number of students. This was the community getting together. I am proud to say that the Palaszczuk government listened to the community and acted.

We started construction on the high school earlier this year. On a visit from the new education minister we met for the first time the new principal, Belinda Traeger. She was the former principal of Loganlea State High School. Recently Principal Traeger ran the first information night for prospective students and parents. The kids were so excited to see the plans and meet their principal and, most importantly, see that they could stay together with their mates and be part of a local school community. It is great to work together with Logan Village and Yarrabilba to deliver services. I know that if we make the case then the Palaszczuk government will listen and act.