




Speech By  
**Peter Russo**  
MEMBER FOR TOOHEY

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Record of Proceedings, 28 November 2019

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Toohey Electorate, Schools; Correction to *Record of Proceedings*, Apology**

 **Mr RUSSO** (Toohey—ALP) (2.45 pm): I rise to inform the House of the great things that have been happening under the leadership of the Palaszczuk government in my electorate of Toohey. Next week the Premier will be coming out to my electorate to open the Sunnybank Special School. This project has gone on for quite some time. I would like to send a shout-out to the principal, Darren. The facilities that have been provided by the Palaszczuk government at that school are world class. The experience that the students will now have at that school places them in good stead to deal with the complexities that they face every day.

Many other great things have happened in my electorate. One is the drop and go zone at MacGregor State School. That would never have happened if it were not for the hard work of the former education minister, Kate Jones, and the current Minister for Education, Minister Grace, who has seen the conclusion of the construction of that great drop and go zone. The drop and go area was constructed jointly with the Brisbane City Council. The school, the students and the parents are very grateful that they now have the safety of being able to drop off children straight outside the school. Another success is the work undertaken at Eight Mile Plains. I must give a shout-out to Minister Bailey. With the upgrade of the M1 in that area of the school, the school also received a drop and go zone.

While I am on my feet, I wish to correct the record. On 15 October 2019 I stated—

Whilst I have performed Legal Aid work in the past, I have not represented any clients who qualify for Legal Aid funding since I became a member of parliament.

At the time of making that statement I believed it to be correct. However, recently, in the course of working through other matters I became aware that in late 2018, due to an unexpected and unforeseen staffing issue, I instructed in court for part of a day on a Legal Aid funded matter until one of the employed solicitors was able to attend. I unreservedly apologise to the House for this omission.