



Speech By  
**Hon. Shannon Fentiman**


**MEMBER FOR WATERFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 February 2019

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Waterford Electorate**

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (7.21 pm): I rise this evening to celebrate some of the incredible work in my electorate which is helping to prepare and empower the next generation for their futures. Earlier this month I attended Loganlea High School to launch the Beyond the Broncos Mentoring program. With guidance from dedicated Broncos student support officers like Elijah Alick, who will be based at both Marsden State High School and Loganlea State High School, students will receive day-to-day mentoring and hands-on support to encourage school attendance and completing year 12.

The Palaszczuk government is proud to support this program through our Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative. In my electorate, Skilling Queenslanders for Work has helped almost 600 jobseekers, with over half gaining employment following their participation in a program. However, ensuring that school leavers are job ready and supported to complete year 12 is only one aspect of a student's development.

I also had the privilege over the last few weeks of representing Minister Jones to announce that Canterbury College in my electorate has received a full athletics track and squash courts as part of the Commonwealth Games legacy program. Over my many visits in the past, I am always in awe of the great opportunities offered to students at Canterbury College, from the innovative technology programs to the sporting excellence program. How fantastic is it that not just students of Canterbury College but young people and residents in Logan will now get access to a world-class athletics track. It is so exciting. I know that this will inspire so many residents in Logan to get out and get active and live healthy lives.

Our school sport programs are absolutely crucial to children's development and so is access to healthy breakfast options. One of my favourite jobs as the member for Waterford is to go to my local schools and be part of the breakfast programs. Last week I had the opportunity to visit Mabel Park State School and the wonderful team of students and support staff to help them hand out breakfast to kids who really need that good start to their day.

The Palaszczuk government understands the important work of these school breakfast programs which is why we have provided over \$1 million in funding so that more students can benefit from a nutritious breakfast so that they can actually learn and play. It is a fantastic program. That particular program is supported by the YMCA. I congratulate them on the work they do.

Spending the morning with the kids from Mabel Park I saw these benefits firsthand as the kids greedily reached for more Vegemite on toast. We knew that they were getting a great start to the day. I am incredibly proud to represent a community that is committed to empowering and supporting the next generation to help them reach their full potential.