




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

Record of Proceedings, 4 February 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Hendricks, Aunty Joan; Redlands Electorate, Schools

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (7.03 pm): Redlands has lost a treasure, Queensland has lost a treasure and our nation has lost a treasure. I was privileged to be able to call Aunty Joan Hendricks, ngugi woman of the Quandamooka people, a very dear friend. Aunty Joan, affectionately known as 'Momo' to her family, lived on Minjerribah, one of the most spectacular islands in the world on our beautiful Quandamooka coast. I remember many a night that Aunty Joan would stay with my family rather than take the ferry back home. We had late-night chats about everything from local issues on our beautiful Quandamooka coast through to her pride and love of her family, particularly her grandson Zane. The last time I got to hug Aunty Joan was on 12 December, a very special day for our Quandamooka people, and to witness her joy mixed with relief will stay with me forever. It was for the handover of the Minjerribah native title deed with the Premier and Deputy Premier. It was a very special day.

Aunty Joan had a deep commitment to her Quandamooka people and culture. She shared the richness of the Quandamooka culture and heritage with our Redlands community and in fact right across our country. Aunty Joan brought Indigenous Australian issues to the world stage at the United Nations. She was generous and gracious and shared all of that with the rest of us. She was a friend, a teacher and an unforgettable community leader. May we never forget her enduring legacy for a glad tomorrow. I will miss you, Aunty Joan.

Like Aunty Joan, I am passionate about education; I know it changes futures. By stark contrast to my LNP predecessors, who for over a decade neglected our Redlands schools, I am proud to say that in two short years I have delivered some fantastic outcomes for my schools and plan every day to keep on delivering more: \$1.2 million for the Russell Island State School classroom refurbishments; \$1 million for the Victoria Point State High School library upgrade; \$100,000 for the Thornlands State School multipurpose court resurfacing; \$2 million for the Victoria Point State High School hall expansion that is currently underway; \$9 million for the Redlands District Special School new learning precinct, design works underway; \$1.6 million of new classrooms at Redland Bay State School completed for term 1 just started and opened; \$700,000 for the Bayview State School new buildings, opened and just started this term; \$400,000 worth of new classrooms for Redlands District Special School; a \$2.4 million new YMCA vocational school underway and in construction at the moment; \$15 million of building and revitalisation of the TAFE that was nearly closed; and the KindyLinQ trial on Macleay and Russell islands—this program will change futures.

We know how important it is to help our children's first teachers—their mums and dads—and to help them be the best educators possible. We have more teachers, teacher aides and simply amazing staff at all our schools. I love working with my schools, my principals, the P&Cs and our school communities. They are the thumping heart of Redlands. I love Redlands and I will work every day and night to keep delivering for my community. That was my promise two years ago, and I do not break my promises.