



Speech By  
**Linus Power**


**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 February 2020

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Yarrabilba State Secondary College**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.51 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker Stewart, it is great that you are in the chair today because as a former principal and teacher you know the value of education. As a former high school teacher myself, I have seen students transform through the process of education. I know that it makes a difference for families. I know that in my own family it has made an extraordinary difference. My father and mother were the first to see the extraordinary change that access to education makes. I know that because I am a product of this transformation.

Last week I was particularly proud of our community when we opened the brand-new Yarrabilba State Secondary College. It is fantastic to see this new institution and especially the new principal, Belinda Tregoe. It is an extraordinary place. Anyone in the brand-new growing suburb of Yarrabilba could take their children there and know that they have a world-class learning institution—something they can be extraordinarily proud of.

It has a fantastic new STEM centre and a new performing arts centre. It also has a great new double basketball court and hall and, of course, it is air conditioned. It is a fantastic new centre. It is everything that the Yarrabilba community deserves. It is also something that I fought for because we knew that Logan Village did not have a high school and that anyone in Logan Village or the nearby area of Stockleigh would have to travel 20 kilometres to get to a high school.

Southern Logan is a growth area and we have new communities. That is why I am really proud that the former education minister and the new education minister have built over 32 new classrooms and two new schools. We have also built the new STEM centre at Park Ridge State School. STEM should be a great focus for Queensland students as they prepare for the future. We built the SES centre at Flagstone. We have more to do at Park Ridge and Logan Reserve.

People may think that that is pretty standard for a growing area, but they would be disappointed to know that that area was growing just as fast during the three years of the LNP government, and how many classrooms were delivered during that period? The answer is zero new classrooms. Let us not forget that they axed 500 teaching positions, failing to meet growth. In growth areas that is what hits the hardest. That hurt the students in our growth area. It hurt those families who were looking forward to having their lives transformed through the power of education.

The choice is pretty clear. We need to keep the pressure on. We will not stop growing. We will not stop needing world-class services. We know that the Palaszczuk government is absolutely committed to delivering those services. I am on the side of people who need those educational services. I will continue to fight for them. I will continue to deliver those services. I thank all of the fantastic students I met at Yarrabilba State Secondary College.