




Speech By
Melissa McMahon

MEMBER FOR MACALISTER

Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Macalister Electorate, School Bus Transport

 **Mrs McMAHON** (Macalister—ALP) (7.15 pm): Tonight I make special mention of Edens Landing State School. Recently I have been working on an issue with Principal Clint Curran and we have had a big win that I would like to share with the House. At the beginning of the year Mr Curran raised with me the lack of availability of bus travel for students. The Edens Landing State School catchment is my fastest growing catchment with thousands of residents in the catchment that were not there 10 to 15 years ago. Despite being mostly a suburban area, some students in the catchment are over an hour's walk from their local primary school. With some families without cars this has been causing accessibility issues.

I thank the offices of Minister Bailey and Minister Grace for working with the contracted school transport service provider in the area and arranging an urgent survey of parents to determine route availability. Within two months of raising this issue the bus company has commenced a new route servicing Bahrs Scrub and the Holmview area direct to Edens Landing State School. This is a win for families in my community to meet the current needs until such time as we build the new Bahrs Scrub primary school.

In the last sitting week students and teachers from Edens Landing visited the House. They were in awe of this place. For some of the students it was the first time they had ever come into the city. Unfortunately due to the timing of sitting weeks I did not get the opportunity to catch up with all the groups that came through, so I went out to the school last week and had a bit of a Q&A session with the seniors. They asked all sorts of wideranging and interesting questions, as we would expect from 11-year-olds. They actually asked a question that stumped me. When they were asking about how long members are allowed to talk on their feet they wanted to know: who was the person who had spoken the longest in this House? I handballed that question to the research team and I can advise all members, if they are asked that tricky question, and the year 6s at Edens Landing that the answer is that it was Sir Samuel Griffith, who spoke for seven hours over a period of two days. He spoke until about quarter past midnight one night. I believe it might have been an address-in-reply so I am pretty sure it was all about himself.

On Friday the Edens Landing student council is holding a fundraiser for children's brain cancer research, encouraging students to attend school dressed as a pirate for a gold coin donation. Since the year 6s challenged me last week I am going to challenge the year 6 students at Edens Landing State School. I issue the challenge, all ye Edens Landing seniors, that I will match the treasure that you raise on Friday, adding it to your booty, for it is such a great cause.