




Speech By
Hon. Grace Grace

MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL

Record of Proceedings, 28 October 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Education

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.51 am): I proudly join the Premier and everyone in the House in wishing every single teacher in Queensland a very happy World Teachers' Day. It is wonderful to see members on both sides of the House wearing their ribbons. I would also like to acknowledge that today is Day for Daniel, Australia's largest national day of action to raise awareness of the importance of child safety, harm prevention and protection, and I acknowledge the great work Denise and Bruce do in our schools.

We all know that education and teachers change lives. I would like to place on record my thanks to every single teacher in Queensland's state and non-state schools for all of their hard work, dedication and passion. They do an amazing job. Do not just take my word for it. I will share with the House the results of the 2022 School Opinion Survey which is being published today. The survey was completed by 100,000 parents and caregivers, 100,000 students and 51,000 staff. I am delighted to see that students, staff and parents and carers who participated in the survey are supportive of their state schools and think they are doing a great job as we continue to strive for continuous improvement.

Here are some findings: 92 per cent of parents and caregivers responded that their school was a good school; 96 per cent believe teachers expect students to do their best; 93 per cent say they can talk to their child's teachers about any concerns; and 90 per cent feel teachers are interested in their child's wellbeing and that their child feels safe at schools. These are great results. When it comes to staff, 92 per cent of staff said their school was a good school and has an inclusive culture where diversity is valued and 92 per cent of principals said they feel well supported by the department to lead their schools. In relation to responses from students, 96 per cent of students said that they felt their teachers expected them to do their best; 90 per cent felt their school encourages students to respect one another; 82 per cent felt their school was a good school—that is probably about right; and in special schools, 97 per cent of special school students said their school was a good school, with 98 per cent feeling their teachers care about them and encourage them to do their best.

The Palaszczuk government is proud of our investment in state schools, ensuring a world-class education with good jobs and even better services for communities right across Queensland. I know it, school communities know it, Queenslanders know it and this survey proves it: state schools are great schools. Once again I wish every teacher a very happy World Teachers' Day.