



Speech By  
**Hon. Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2022

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**State Schools, Opening**

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.58 am): The Palaszczuk government has now officially opened all three of our newest Queensland schools: at Greenbank, Caloundra South and Coomera. I was delighted to be joined by the Premier to officially open Everleigh State School at Greenbank in Logan and Nirimba State Primary School in Caloundra South in Caloundra, a combined investment of \$105 million.

Just last Thursday I was warmly welcomed by the community of Coomera State Special School, in the electorate of Coomera, to officially open this world-class school which is now home to almost 150 students. This school is so popular in the community that enrolments are expected to hit 210 next year. We are bringing forward and expanding stage 2, doubling the number of new classrooms we are building from eight to 16. I was struck by the amazing signing choir and by the strong community partnerships the school has already built, with the local Rotary club and other nearby schools attending to show their support. Students will benefit from a new disability resourcing model for state schools starting in 2023, including a new category to support those with the most intensive needs.

These three schools alone represent an almost \$200 million investment, supporting 600 good construction jobs and providing even better services and amazing educational opportunities for their students. I was even able to brush up on my basketball skills at the Everleigh by sinking a two-pointer—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Ms GRACE:** If they do not believe me, it was caught on film! I take this opportunity to encourage all schools to apply for round 1 of our Go for Gold program, with \$7 million now available for all schools to apply for new sporting equipment. We are delivering four more new schools in our fastest growing communities for 2023—an investment of almost \$330 million, supporting 900 good local jobs.

We are also delivering \$220 million for additional classrooms; \$650 million for renewal projects such as the new ITD centres at Gladstone and Bundaberg; \$109 million to upgrade special schools; \$43.2 million for co-design projects in 18 of our discrete communities; and \$20 million for playground and tuckshop upgrades. This record investment in education is just another way the Palaszczuk government is planning and delivering for Queensland's future.