



Speech By Jason Hunt

MEMBER FOR CALOUNDRA

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ADJOURNMENT

Caloundra State High School

Mr HUNT (Caloundra—ALP) (6.01 pm): My old high school, Caloundra State High School, has gone and done it again. On 21 October I was invited to attend the end-of-year performance by the Caloundra High Edge dance group, an accelerated program for dance students. What an absolute joy it was to witness. I almost want to dance myself right now. For the benefit of the House, I will not.

It does not happen by accident, though. Without head of department Anita Hounslow, dance teachers Lisa Royter, Jenna Griffiths and Amber Williams and teacher aide and former Edge dancer Paige Wharton, it simply would not be the triumph it was, without these teachers leading the way. Then there are the parents of these incredible students who were at the performance in force to acknowledge the culmination of years of training and rehearsals. The sweat, the injury and, yes, at times the tears that go into quality performing arts performances like those of the Edge dance group are very obvious.

I mention the incredible year 12 students who danced for the last time this year: Tiggi Mullens, Sophie Wharton and Jordyn Montague. I sincerely hope these dancers keep studying dance and keep excelling. They were truly amazing. The breathtaking talents of Ava-Ling David, Zerah Wildman and Camille Flaherty have been acknowledged. They are the new dance captains for 2023. Given their own amazing performances, I cannot wait to see where they take the Edge dance group next year.

Aside from the absolute Broadway quality dance numbers performed by this troupe of dancers at every year level, there were individual performances that had to be seen to be believed. Rojan Marders, the famously sequined tap dancer from last year, was back and this time was joined by Paige Carter and Ruby Jordan in an incredible, sensational jazz trio. Meiling Wyre's contemporary solo was absolutely stupendous. The efforts of Ivy Davies and Holy Vaughan, students from year 9, were all the more staggering given that their talent so clearly exceeds their tender years. Do not even get me started on the choreography and performance of Shae Prescott and Huey Liston—absolute brilliance. There was not a dry eye in the place.

Edge dancers, I cannot thank you enough for your performance and for your very obvious dedication to the arts. Our youth are quite simply amazing. Our future is in very good hands. Caloundra State High School continues to produce—as it has done since at least 1987—quality citizens.