



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 31 March 2022

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

**Greenslopes Electorate, Schools**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (2.59 pm): I hope everyone is enjoying the soundtrack I have arranged for my speech here this afternoon! On this side of the House, we love our teachers, but today I want to talk about other important people who work in schools, particularly the administration officers. Every parent will tell you teachers often come and go, but those administration officers at the front counter who are there when your kids get sick, help you to sort out enrolment, and all those little things you have to do on the way, they are there for the long haul, and you get to know them over the years.

It is my sad duty to report to the House that the community of Seville Road State School this year was torn apart by the loss of Helen Reah. Helen was on the front desk. She was the front face—the kind person you would see every time you went to that school. She was known to generations and generations of people at that school. Sadly and tragically she died suddenly just a few weeks ago. I pass on my condolences to Helen's family. I know she is deeply missed and mourned by the entire community of Seville Road State School.

There is another administration officer I really want to pay tribute to today as well and that is Karen Oliver. She has served the community of Holland Park State School for 31 years. My hair was dark back then, I seem to recall. Helen has done a fantastic job. She is someone who is so dedicated to that community. It is nothing to find Helen there when you go for the P&C meeting late at night; she is still there working away. She is such a part of the fabric of that community. I wish her and her husband, Paul, all the best in their well-deserved retirement.

In the time remaining, I want to talk about how I back local schools. It was great to have Harper, Anu and James here, student leaders from Coorparoo State School. They were here today to talk to the minister about the exciting announcement of faster internet. I know that is something that everybody on this side is really behind.

We have done so much to back local schools in the community of Greenslopes. I speak of schools like Coorparoo State School and Nursery Road Special School as well as Cavendish Road, Mount Gravatt and Holland Park schools. They have all benefited from infrastructure. I am pleased to be able to stand in this place today and say that Holland Park State High School will now be benefiting from \$2 million worth of investment in infrastructure to upgrade their hospitality facilities for training and student support resources. I am also pleased to say that another great school, Whites Hill State College is getting \$2.4 million to build a new manual arts block and upgrade its student facilities. It is fantastic. This is what we do on this side of the House: we back our local schools.