




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

Record of Proceedings, 1 December 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Redlands Electorate

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (6.09 pm): Madam Deputy Speaker Bush, in the last adjournment series for 2022 I take this opportunity to wish you, everybody in this chamber and everybody in my Redlands community a very merry Christmas. The member for Kawana showed us a couple of his moves. I thought about singing my last contribution tonight and I discussed that with my mum and she said, 'Oh my God, Kim! Do not do that. Nobody needs to hear that. That is for very special occasions only,' so I will not sing my last adjournment speech for 2022.

I take this opportunity to say what an amazing year this has been in the Redlands. It has been absolutely incredible, particularly in the education space. I am extraordinarily proud of the projects I have had the opportunity to deliver. For many of us in this chamber Friday was the five-year anniversary of our election to this place, and in that time in the education space I have seen the transformation of every single school. Together with the Minister for the Environment, we fought very hard for air conditioning in all of our schools in South-East Queensland. I say this to all of the students who are enjoying the air conditioning in what was the hotter part of earlier this week and what will be hot when we come back in the new year: I am so proud of the work that we did to fight for that. That was a really huge win for South-East Queensland schools. I am so proud of the work that we did at the high school in the library and in the hall expansion. There is also an \$11 million STEM, hospitality and robotics building underway that will open in the New Year, so I am very excited about that. I have spoken about Redland District Special School many times in this place. When we talk about the legacy that we leave behind five years on, that legacy for me is something that will be on the top of the pops in my most proud list because that delivers an amazing outcome with these amazing classrooms and art classrooms. I am very proud of that.

We have delivered something at all of our schools. My island community really is a unique part of South-East Queensland in that over 10,000 people live on islands. It is complicated, but over on our islands we delivered the KindyLinQ program, which is still being delivered today. It is amazing. This year we brought kindergarten to the Russell Island State School. I had the chance to meet with my principal last week and she said, 'Kim, you will not believe the transition that those kindergarten students are making to prep.' That changes lives. That changes futures and destinies. I am so extraordinarily proud of all of the work that we have done in the education space. In the health space I cannot begin to talk about the satellite hospital that will service those islands and our growing community. I think about all of the things that I have delivered in five years and legacy is absolutely everything in this place. Five years on I know—whether I am here for another two years or another 10 years—that I am so proud of everything I have delivered for my Redlands community.