




Speech By
Laura Gerber

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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ADJOURNMENT

Currumbin Community Special School

 **Mrs GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (12.55 pm): I have a fantastic good-news story. Currumbin Community Special School does such incredible work educating and supporting 106 students with a wide range of disabilities and needs. Many of the students have difficult regulating their body temperature. They feel heat, humidity and cold at an increased level and often find it difficult to communicate their needs. When I met with the Currumbin Community Special School P&C last year they told me their students needed their school hall air-conditioned. Their school hall is a multipurpose facility that is used for school assemblies, awards nights and their own fundraisers to help build facilities for the school. It is also used for vacation care. In February this year I wrote to the Minister for Education seeking the hall be air-conditioned under the state government's promise to air-condition all state schools. Disappointingly, the minister replied saying halls are not part of the deal and that the school would have to fundraise to air-condition the hall themselves. Well, fundraise the money we did.

The Currumbin Community Special School P&C got to work straight away, and I joined them this month at their Bunnings snag fundraiser alongside students and staff from St Andrews College and Rotarians from the Currumbin-Coolangatta-Tweed branch who all came out to volunteer, as well as Currumbin Community Special School student Logan O'Hare. The awesome crew from Triple M turned up and promoted the fundraiser. Tweed Mall and Cabarita Woolworths donated all the barbecue supplies. Burleigh Bunnings generously donated the \$100 Bunnings voucher which was used as a raffle prize—and I made sure to upsize every sausage patron to buy a raffle ticket at that fundraiser. And the best news of all, Titans legend and charity 4 ASD Kids founder Mat Rogers and his wife Chloe Maxwell heard about the school's need to air-condition their hall and came through for the students of Currumbin Community Special School. Last Friday they raised a whopping \$50,000 at their annual golf day so now the students will have an air-conditioned school hall—and they will have it in time for their awards night on 5 December. I am so lucky to be part of such an amazing school community and an amazing wider community that pulls together to support not only students, but this amazing school that is doing such fantastic things in our community.

I want to thank Mariette, Sabine, Lisa, Danielle and Nicky for all their work on the P&C to achieve this for the school. This is what community is all about. I look forward to joining Currumbin Community Special School for their awards night in their new air-conditioned hall. As it is World Teachers' Day, I would like to thank all of the teachers at Currumbin Community Special School for the amazing work they do to support our fantastic students.