




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Record of Proceedings, 26 May 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Education

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.47 pm): While studying at Griffith University I read the book called *Making the Difference*. It recognises the difference that a great school and great teachers can make to young lives. It really inspired me as a high school teacher of English, history and Japanese. It taught me that teaching was not only about imparting facts or learning Japanese characters or vocabulary but also about making a difference, overcoming equality and social disadvantage. That is why as a teacher I got involved with the Labor Party and that is why I am so passionate about the great schools and teaching in Logan.

One of the reasons I was so determined to stand for election in 2015 was that I saw that the LNP was not meeting the demands of Logan students. We all know that the LNP cut investment in education, but one would think that in an area growing so much in population the LNP would have invested in new schools. Unfortunately, there were no new schools at all during the LNP's time in government. One would have thought that there would at least be new classrooms invested in for Logan but, unfortunately, during the LNP's time in government there were no new classrooms in Logan.

This Labor government is investing in education in Queensland. We are investing in education in Logan. Earlier this year we saw the opening of the new primary school at Everleigh in Greenbank. That opening was attended by the member for Jordan and the Minister for Education. Recently we had the really exciting event of turning the first sod at the new school at Yarrabilba. We saw apprentices and workers on the building site. There are already more than 1,000 students at the existing Yarrabilba State School.

It is quite clear that we are investing. We are investing in the classrooms that our growing area needs. Air conditioning has already gone into all classrooms and there are also solar panels going in that will actually reduce the bills for schools.

We know that LNP cuts hurt growing areas like Logan. It might not be as bad for established areas like the member for Moggill's where they perhaps already have all the schools they need. However, for growing areas like ours those cuts really cause damage. That is why Logan cannot afford the LNP, who will make further cuts to education and will not build the classrooms, schools and education we need. That is why I will continue to fight to make a difference for Logan so that we can have the resources for our students that we need.