




Speech By
Hon. Mark Furner

MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE

Record of Proceedings, 14 October 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Ferny Grove Electorate, Schools

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities) (2.29 pm): I am proud to put on the record today the excellent work the Palaszczuk Labor government is doing with its strong support in education. As the Minister for Education mentioned on Wednesday, by 2023 Queensland will have four new schools—Augustine Heights, Palmview, Ripley and Yarrabilba. That is a total investment of \$330 million, supporting 900 good jobs and ensuring even better educational services in those communities. Since 2015 this government has built 25 new schools—an investment of more than \$3 billion.

Our investment in education also expands to investing in the future of our existing schools, and that is especially true in my electorate of Ferny Grove. I am pleased to report that the foundations on the \$10 million redevelopment at Mitchelton Special School have now been completed. Mitchie Special School is over 50 years old, and that is why I promised to deliver it at the last election and it is being delivered as I speak today.

I am pleased to deliver for the families across the Ferny Grove electorate. Families at Grovely are seeing the refurbishment and redevelopment of classrooms and the resource centre. Families from Oakleigh State School are seeing a massive increase in new classrooms, just as families at Newmarket saw last year. Families at Oakleigh will also be enjoying the new multipurpose hall the Palaszczuk government will build later this year.

Families at Ferny Hills State School have been pleased to learn that this year's state budget has allocated funding to build a new amenities block. It has been more than five decades since the current amenities block was built at the school and I am pleased that this government is willing to roll up its sleeves and get the job done to replace it. That is what this Palaszczuk Labor government does—it delivers.

Since I started my term of office in 2015, the Palaszczuk government has delivered more than \$65 million in education funding for Ferny Grove schools. We have delivered for students, we have delivered for staff, we have delivered for families and we have delivered for the tradies who have constructed all of these projects—with constructions like the transit oriented development at Ferny Grove station well underway. I know the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Mr Bailey, is well aware of its growth. It will deliver 1,400 carparks and the project itself is supporting 800 full-time jobs. I want to put on the record my appreciation of the former transport minister, Minister Hinchliffe, and Speaker Pitt for bringing this about when he was Treasurer.

My constituents will benefit from the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. The plan is all about a future of cheaper, cleaner and secure energy for Queenslanders, powering good jobs in new regional industries right across Queensland.

