




Speech By
Melissa McMahon

MEMBER FOR MACALISTER

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ADJOURNMENT

Macalister Electorate, Schools

 **Mrs McMAHON** (Macalister—ALP) (7.09 pm): I rise to speak tonight about our Macalister schools. Before I do so, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our schools and our teachers for the flexibility and adaptability they displayed when we delayed the start of school for two weeks. Like many parents—I myself have three school-age students—I was really looking forward to the return-to-school date. I do understand and I absolutely appreciate the need to put the safety of our children first. I had my kids in here at parliament when the announcement was made. My daughter was quite pleased to thank the education minister for the delay of two weeks; I was not. I am pleased to see that students have returned to schools in our Macalister area.

While our kids were at home, our schools in Macalister were a hive of activity. At the end of last year I updated the House on the work in my election commitment to update the outdoor learning centres at Windaroo State School. The kids there are currently using them on a daily basis. I also updated the House on the progress of the \$1 million to reroof some of our older classrooms at Mount Warren Park State School. I can advise the House that all that work has now been completed and it is like a breath of fresh air through our Mount Warren Park State School.

Our Carbrook State School administration building is in the throes of its last bit of finishing work inside. I can tell honourable members that the staff at the school were extremely pleased to know they were going to get a new administration building, particularly when I said I would give them a new coffee machine for the meal room. They seemed to be extremely happy with that, and I will brew the first coffee batch for them.

The delay actually allowed the Edens Landing State School refurbishment to get the kick along it needed. That was a \$1 million commitment in last year's budget to upgrade an entire education block. I can advise the House that it is officially opening this week. I wish the school well.

I have also been notified that, in relation to two of our biggest commitments in the Macalister electorate, a new hall for Beenleigh State High School and a new learning block for Beenleigh Special School, the design work is now complete and we are now at the approval stage. The community of Macalister will see that building work commence within the next couple of months.

I would like to thank everyone in the school community for their patience. I would like to thank all the parents for their patience as well. Thank you very much to our Macalister school communities for being understanding. Thank you to those Macalister families who went out and made sure their kids were jabbed before the start of school.