



Speech By Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Education

Mr POWER (Logan—ALP) (2.46 pm): I want to say happy World Teachers' Day for tomorrow to all of the fantastic, hardworking teachers in Logan.

Ms Pease: You are a teacher, aren't you?

Mr POWER: You are right; I am a former high school teacher. I am not as good as the fantastic teachers who are in Logan. Each week they try to do innovative and fantastic lessons for their students, and they put in that extra preparation.

I have noticed lately—you may have noticed it yourself, Mr Deputy Speaker Martin—that occasionally members opposite hold up a yellow and blue document. It is titled 'right-wing priorities'. I wanted to ask members what it was and they were reluctant to give it to me, but eventually they gave me a copy of 'right-wing priorities'. I wanted to look up what were the right-wing priorities for education. There was less than half a page of information there. They made an attack on principals where they said that principals were making teachers spend too much time out of the classroom. In fact, what they were attacking was the time that teachers have to do lesson planning and preparation. I see the former principals here who know how important that is. As a former LOTE teacher, I knew how important preparation was. The other thing I found very disappointing in their 'right-wing priorities' was that there was nothing about investment in—

Mr CRANDON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member for Logan is misleading the House. It does not say that. It says, 'The Right Priorities for Queensland's Future'.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): That is not a point of order. Resume your seat.

Mr POWER: That is absolutely right. They are having right-wing priorities, not for Queensland but for themselves. There is no statement about investment in a growing population. There is nothing about investing in new schools. We have built four new schools in my growing area: Everleigh State School, a fantastic school which I share with the member for Jordan; South Rock State School; Yarrabilba State School; and the fantastic Yarrabilba State Secondary College. We have seen investment in new classrooms.

With no new investments amongst their right-wing priorities, we have a right to be scared in Logan. We are right to be scared that their right-wing priorities will mean cuts to the schools that we need. Instead, we are investing in classrooms. We can also look at their record. Do members know how many classrooms the LNP built in the growing area of Logan during their time in government?

Mr Bailey: Zero.

Mr POWER: The transport minister knows. The answer is zero, and that is what we can expect again. Let me say that that lack of investment in a growing area is—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr POWER: I put this question: can the teachers and students of Logan risk a party that does not make investment in students a priority? Can Logan risk a party that did not build a single classroom during their time in government? It is quite clear that we cannot risk their dangerous right-wing priorities. We need to keep investing in the classrooms and teachers of Logan. Happy World Teachers' Day.