



Speech By Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 13 September 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Miller Electorate, Schools

Hon. MC BAILEY (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (7.09 pm): Getting a good education is the key to life's opportunities. As a kid from a single-parent family who lived on main roads, I am eternally grateful for the very good public state school education I received. I acknowledge a few of my old teachers: Mrs Zeibarth at Broadbeach State School, Graham Iffland at Holland Park State School, and Carolyn Lingard and the late Chas Cameron at Cavendish Road State High School, to name just a few of many good teachers I experienced as a kid to get a good education. Working closely with all my local schools, my P&Cs, my P&Fs, principals, parents and staff is a very high priority for me as the member for Miller.

There are many positive things that have been completed or near completed in my electorate in the local school space that I would like to report to the chamber. Sherwood State School is a fantastic school. It has been there for more than 150 years. We are very advanced now in building disability access there. It has the old timber verandahs in an elevated style which makes it hard for kids who are in a wheelchair or who might have a disability to get around. That project is nearing completion. We still have funding for their OSHC but they want to add to that themselves and have a good after-school care facility, so we are working with them on that too.

Yeronga State School is going very well with nine new classrooms in the converted old Yeronga dental hospital. There is some new administration there, but the classrooms are fantastic, setting up Yeronga State School for a long time to come in terms of growth. We have just finished the new security fence around the whole school. There is a lot space next to a public park. They have had a lot of people entering the grounds who should not be on the grounds. That school fence, I know, has been very welcomed by the P&C and by parents.

Yeronga State High School has been allocated \$500,000 in this year's state budget to improve its performing arts area. It certainly needs upgrading. That is on top of us working with them in past years to cover their courts. Their collaborative outdoor learning space has been very successful. They also had new fencing of their own.

Junction Park State School, another very old school in my electorate, has one of those classic old schoolhouse 1920s buildings. It is looking better than I have ever seen it, with a big heritage upgrade. That was completed about a year or so ago now. The school looks absolutely magnificent with that piece of work.

I also want to acknowledge the fetes recently at St Elizabeth's school and Graceville State School. I work closely with the other schools in my electorate: Wellers Hill, Milpera, St Sebastian's, Merrimac, Our Ladies and the Barrett school. I have a lot of schools in my electorate. Every kid should know that a good education is the key to a good life.