




Speech By
Peter Russo

MEMBER FOR TOOHEY

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ADJOURNMENT

Sunnybank State High School

 **Mr RUSSO** (Toohey—ALP) (7.03 pm): On the last day of the third term of the school year I had the pleasure of representing the Minister for Education, Grace Grace, at the official opening of Sunnybank State High School's new \$6 million Innovation and Design Centre. The initial idea for this amazing facility can be attributed to the determination and foresight of Acacia Platt, the head of the school's technology department. Her idea was for a state-of-the-art facility which would respond to current and future demands of industrial design and manual arts training. Acacia's dream was brought to life by visionary minds at Chapcon building services who have done a great job onsite. What I saw at Sunnybank State High School was a centre of learning that will propel students into a world of boundless possibilities. This facility is not just a building with classrooms and machinery; it has become an opportunity that will foster the aspirations of students.

This new building has embraced and realised recent changes that have been steadily evolving in the design, building and construction industries. Students will still be able to engage with traditional manual arts benches and tools; however, they will also be able to immerse themselves in modern, collaborative environments, fuelled by cutting-edge technology. The new building space includes two design theory classrooms which include 3D printers; a smart manufacturing workshop with a CNC lathe, router and milling machine; and a building and construction workshop. In purpose-built collaboration zones, students will be able to come together and share their ideas. Laptops will transform their ideas into opportunities and become a creation as projects are brought to life before the students' eyes. Students will use their digital sketches to create new designs and with laser-cut precision and 3D printing those designs will bridge the divide from imagination and become a reality. The opportunity for the students to have hands-on engagement in these leading-edge applications will prepare them for when they step forth into real-world industries. This experience will be critical in the context of skill shortages.

I commend Jessica Walker, the Principal at Sunnybank State High School, for enthusiastically embracing the new Innovation and Design Centre and I endorse her words when she said—

The Sunnybank High Innovation and Design Centre isn't just a space; it's a bridge to our future. It moulds our students, not just into effective designers and builders, but into architects of their own destinies. It prepares them to stride confidently into a world of possibilities, where they'll sculpt innovative and creative careers in a rapidly evolving world.

I acknowledge the efforts of all the teachers, teacher aides, school support staff and the school P&C and their support of this wonderful outcome at the school.