




Speech By
John Barounis

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

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ADJOURNMENT

Maryborough Electorate, High Schools

 **Mr BAROUNIS** (Maryborough—LNP) (9.31 pm): I rise today to speak about the education that high school students are receiving within the Maryborough electorate. It has become very clear to me that regardless of whether our children attend state or private schools, great things are happening. I have visited and engaged with staff and students from our high schools and I am very proud of their remarkable achievements. Maryborough State High School has been awarded the title of Best Regional School in Australia in 2025. This honour reflects the dedication of the principal, Simon Done, the staff and the pride and commitment of the students. Also from the school, Georgia has been selected as one of only eight students across Queensland to receive the Premier's Anzac Prize, which includes a trip to Europe next year to experience firsthand the history and significance of Anzac Day.

Riverside Christian College has now been inducted into the Fraser Coast Business and Tourism Awards' Hall of Fame after winning Education Provider of the Year for three consecutive years. Riverside Christian College Distance Education is offering its most flexible program ever, giving families a three-tier choice in how the curriculum is delivered. This empowers families to educate their children in ways that best suit their lifestyle.

Aldridge State High School boasts an impressive music program where students write, perform and record music in their own school recording studio. This year they released six songs across major platforms including Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube. Students Aaliah and Regan were semifinalists in the national Tamworth Songwriters Association Awards with their 2025 entry. Aldridge State High School has also excelled in agriculture, receiving awards at the Brisbane Royal Queensland Show for their breeding program, which produced a supreme champion Square Meater female heifer.

St Mary's College has been named the national winner out of 110 schools across Australia in the 2025 National STEM MAD Showcase in Adelaide. Year 9 and 10 students Kashvi, Luka and Archer designed and presented Project Melatron, an AI-powered early detection and real-time UV exposure monitoring system for melanoma prevention. Congratulations to everyone for their hard work and dedication. We are very proud of your achievements.