




Speech By
Hon. Leanne Linard

MEMBER FOR NUDGEES

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ADJOURNMENT

Queensland Teachers' Union, Enterprise Bargaining

 **Hon. LM LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (11.50 pm): Yesterday members of the Labor opposition stood shoulder to shoulder with Queensland teachers and members of the QTU in their fight for the future of education in Queensland—a fight that is not just about teachers but also about students, because every student deserves a great education and every educator deserves respect. A quality education for every child needs teachers who can depend on fair pay and safe, fair working conditions. That is what our teachers are fighting for in the current round of EB negotiations.

QTU members are stronger, more united and more determined than ever to be valued and respected for their profession: educating Queensland students. What they are asking for is crystal clear: nation-leading wages. While the government made lots of promises to our teachers and school leaders before the election, they are not so interested in fulfilling those promises now. Labor understands that schools do not run on false promises. They run on the dedication and hard work of our teachers, teacher aides, admin staff and school leaders. That is why Labor will always stand shoulder to shoulder with teachers in their fight for decent conditions.

Our educators work tirelessly each and every day to nurture the hearts and minds of our young people. I sat down recently with three local delegates from the Queensland Teachers' Union, Mickey, Kate and Michael, Nudgee locals and incredibly inspiring examples of the teaching profession. These three educators have dedicated their professional lives to the service of young people in this state. They wanted me to know what they are fighting for and why they are fighting for it. I want Mickey, Kate and Michael to know that I am fighting for them. I want every teacher in my local schools across the Nudgee electorate to know that I am fighting for them. I want every teacher who has made a difference in the lives of my two children to know that, as a mother, I am so thankful for what they do each and every day and that I am fighting for them. I know my husband knows that I am proud to be married to a state schoolteacher.

The QTU's priorities are not unreasonable. They are fighting for what every teacher in this state deserves: fair pay, manageable workloads and the basic resources to ensure every student receives a quality education. Thank you to all of the educators and union members who showed up and made their voices heard outside parliament last night. Thank you to the QNMU, which came out in solidarity with teachers, because strong public services rely on properly valuing the people who deliver them. After last week's shameful offer presented to union members—as stated by QTU members themselves, the worst EB offer in living memory—the pressure is now on the LNP government to come to the table and deliver for Queensland teachers like they promised.