



Speech By  
**Mark Boothman**


**MEMBER FOR THEODORE**

---

Record of Proceedings, 20 November 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Lindsay, Ms K; Hawkins, Mr A**

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (9.31 pm): Tonight I rise to honour the remarkable career of an extraordinary educator and school leader, Karen Lindsay. For 38 years Karen has dedicated herself to Queensland education, leaving an enduring mark on the lives of countless students and the communities that she has served. Her journey began in 1987 at Rockhampton State High School, where she quickly established herself as an enthusiastic health and physical education teacher. Karen's dedication to learning and physical wellbeing laid the foundations for a career that spanned multiple schools and leadership roles. Throughout her distinguished career Karen held various positions—from teaching at Bribie Island State High School to serving as head of department and deputy principal at Mountain Creek State High School. Her leadership skills shone brightly as she served as the principal at several schools, including Bribie Island State High School and Meridian State College.

In 2010 Karen embarked on a new chapter at Upper Coomera State College, where I met her many years ago, where she also took on regional leadership. Her influence and commitment to education excellence certainly knew no bounds as she was so passionate about helping students who were falling behind by picking them up and pushing them forward. She eventually became the principal of Helensvale State High School in the electorate of Theodore and has held that position since 2017. After 38 years of unwavering education excellence, Karen is hanging up her education boots. On behalf of a grateful community I say: we will greatly miss you, Karen, but we hope that your retirement will be full of new adventures and new challenges.

Before I finish, I want to wish our Sergeant-at-Arms, Andrew Hawkins, the very best on his new career. You did an outstanding job in the Queensland parliament and you are a good, amazing individual—a true gentleman. I will say this: you may take the mace one last time. Thank you for everything you have done. We will certainly be sad to see you go, so thank you, Andrew.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Krause): Member for Theodore, it was a little presumptuous of you to give the Sergeant-at-Arms the ability to take the mace. I will do that job for you. Before we do that, thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms, for your service here. As the Speaker noted this morning, we very much appreciate it.