



Speech by

Dr Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND

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CLEVELAND ELECTORATE, EDUCATION

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Cleveland—LNP) (2.48 pm): Education is going ahead in Cleveland under the Newman government. The Newman government has wasted no time in delivering education benefits to Cleveland students and families. The recent start of construction of year 7 classrooms at Cleveland District State High School, approval of new chaplains for Bay View and Dunwich state schools, and an emerging plan for junior high school students from North Stradbroke Island show that the new LNP government is getting on with the job in Cleveland.

The families of the Cleveland electorate highly value the schools in the region and the education these schools provide. Our principals, teachers, staff and chappies are highly regarded and respected in the community. From day one of being returned as the member for Cleveland and as part of the new LNP government, I have started work again to improve the quality of education delivered to all of our students in state, Catholic and independent schools.

I am happy to report progress already at Cleveland District State High School. Building is underway on the new year 7 classrooms that will be required during 2013-14 when year 7 migrates to the high school. I visited the school recently and, together with Principal Paul Bancroft, turned the first sod for the construction.

It was also great to hear the news that Bay View State School at Thornlands and Dunwich State School on North Stradbroke Island had received funding to employ new chaplains. Both schools are well-deserved recipients of new funding to employ new chappies to provide crucial assistance to students and their families, working with teachers and staff. The chaplaincy program has been a resounding success in Cleveland schools and continues to enjoy huge community support.

Another positive development is with respect to the provision of secondary education to junior high school students from North Stradbroke Island. I am pleased to report that there has been healthy early discussions by a strategic partners' round table. A draft proposal recommends the following: the Dunwich secondary campus remains an EQ asset; the NSI community has conveyed overwhelming support for the transitioning of the years 8, 9 and 10 secondary program from Dunwich to Cleveland District State High School; transitioning is envisaged to begin in semester 2, 2012; transition resource arrangements are to be refined in 2012-13; and the principal of Cleveland District State High School will be involved in looking at re-inventing the use of the facility currently at the Dunwich secondary campus. The issue of a transport subsidy would be then pursued through the department's School Transport Unit. I will soon be writing to Straddie residents to get their views on these matters.

The recent celebration of state Education Week was a significant thing in Cleveland. I participated in a national book reading morning at Cleveland State School. I enjoyed working with Principal Judy Dale to read to the children. It was a fun time role-playing the part of a grumpy bear, wearing a bear hat and timing my bear growls in the story. It was suggested that the growling could be good practice for my new role as Deputy Speaker in the parliament.