




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR ALBERT

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ADJOURNMENT

Cedar Creek State School; Pimpama State School; Ormeau Lions Fair

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (9.04 pm): With all the hype and propaganda that the Minister for Education spins in this chamber about record funding and the glossy brochures with warm, fuzzy pictures, the reality for parents and staff at both Cedar Creek State School and Pimpama State School is somewhat different. Sunday two weeks ago a parent of the Pimpama State School put pen to paper to express her frustration and anger to the Minister for Education. The letter outlined funding that the school thought was granted for a new administration building, but now it has been taken away. The letter states—

Our school was promised much needed funding to build a new administration building approximately eight months ago. This was celebrated and appreciated by all parents and staff alike, as it meant that we would finally have wheelchair and pram access to the 'Heart of the School'—the school office!—plus easier access for all of the elderly grandparents and carers who drop children off to school and need to speak to office staff. Plans were drawn up immediately and tenders were finalised.

The letter goes on to say—

Another local school, Pimpama College, has just had a hall built. I'm quite perplexed at how this 'luxury' can be granted funding, while our school is only wanting an administration building which can be ACCESSED BY ALL WHO NEED IT. Our current building is extremely old.

Further to the Pimpama State School issue, Cedar Creek State School, which is located in the foothills of Tamborine Mountain and is 142 years old, recently made efforts to have their very own tuckshop—a facility most schools take for granted. A member of the school community informed me that they believe due to exorbitant department of education minimum requirements the price has jumped from \$50,000 to \$180,000. The Cedar Creek P&C, whilst they do a fantastic job, certainly cannot afford \$180,000; it is simply out of reach for them. I say to the minister that these communities demand action and they ask that these facilities be implemented in these schools. The Cedar Creek State School is 142 years old and they want their tuckshop. All parents and people with wheelchairs have the right to access the administration block.

On a happier note, the Ormeau Lions Fair is on this weekend. This is the biggest annual event on the northern Gold Coast. It is an event which brings lots of families to the local community. It has been going on for many, many years and I would like to thank the committee, Pauline Weatherby and Bill McIntosh, and many other individuals for all their tireless work in getting the fair together this weekend.