




Speech By
Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND

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ADJOURNMENT

Cleveland District State High School

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Cleveland—LNP) (2.26 am): I rise to speak in support of the e-petition of the Cleveland District State High School that calls on the government to provide the school with a hall. Under the LNP government, much was achieved in education in Cleveland, including the construction of a year 7 building at Cleveland District State High School, a hall at Bay View State School, education options for the Quandamooka high school students of North Stradbroke Island, e-tablets for children at Redlands District Special School, the IPS initiative and much more.

The construction of the year 7 building at Cleveland District High School by the LNP government, at a cost of \$8.3 million, was a substantial investment in education infrastructure in our region. The construction of a multipurpose hall at Bay View State School, at a cost of \$2.8 million, was another substantial infrastructure investment. The P&C at Cleveland District State High School observed the construction of the hall at Bay View State School and, although glad for that school, pondered why Cleveland District State High School does not have a similar hall as it is a school of almost 2,000 students and one of the few schools that does not have a hall.

With the LNP government's achievements in education, the Cleveland District State High School hall is now the highest priority education infrastructure in Cleveland. For some unexplained reason, the current government has refused to recognise this priority. The school P&C has started an e-petition and a campaign to call on the government to act. When last I checked, there were 1,764 signatories to the e-petition.

The school P&C is seeking answers from this minister. Firstly, the P&C points out that recently the education minister told the *Redland City Bulletin* that EQ officers were working with the school to prepare a business case for the hall but, despite repeated requests to meet earlier from when the minister wrote to the P&C president, it took six months for EQ officers to meet with school personnel. Subsequently, it took another six months for these same officers to prepare a draft strategic assessment. A month ago the school returned the edited assessment to officers from the facilities section. Again, despite repeated requests and phone calls, there has not been any response from the EQ officers. The school P&C wants to know if the minister finds this reasonable and when the school might expect a response and progress on this matter.

Secondly, the P&C want the minister to explain why Cleveland District State High School—a very large school—has been put through an onerous and undefined 18-month process to prepare a business case for the hall, and with little support from EQ officers, while other smaller schools have been provided with multimillion dollar halls without going through such an arduous process. Clearly, it is time for the minister to do the right thing by the school community and the families of students of Cleveland District State High School and support the construction of a hall.