Building Better Schools
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Message from the Premier

I believe that every young Queenslander deserves a quality education, no matter where they live.

That’s why my government has delivered record education funding, employed more teachers including 875 above growth and built the new classrooms and new schools we need to cater for growth throughout the state.

This year, my government delivered a record education budget of $9.8 billion.

Over the next four years, state school enrolments are forecast to grow by more than 40,000 students. We need to act now to prepare for this surge in state schooling.

The Newman-Nicholls Government did not fund our schools for growth and instead cut 500 teachers from our classrooms, putting upward pressure on class sizes.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will always ensure that we deliver schools when and where they are needed.

Our Building Better Schools policy shapes our commitment to quality education and quality education facilities for children.
A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will boost our $500 million Building Future Schools for Queensland fund by an additional $308 million to build the new schools we need to cater for school enrolment growth and modern learning throughout the state.

Through our $808 million Building Future Schools for Queensland fund we will:

- Build seven new secondary schools, including the high school at Calliope, west of Gladstone and the two inner-city Brisbane schools that will cater for the anticipated 3,500 additional students expected in the inner-city over the next five years
- Build a new special school in the Caboolture area
- Deliver two primary schools, including the final primary school under the Public Private Partnership agreement at Springfield West
- Begin planning for four additional primary schools, two special schools and a new state high school in growth regions across the state.

Our new Renewing Our Schools policy will deliver:

- Up to $235 million over four years to 2021-22 for a school renewal fund, substantially refurbishing 17 state high schools, including nine schools in regional Queensland
- $750 million rolling fund over four years to ensure we maintain our 25,000 school buildings in 1,239 state schools.
The Newman-Nicholls Legacy

When the Palaszczuk Government was elected in 2015, we were faced with the impact of the Newman-Nicholls Government’s disastrous education cuts, sackings and school closures.

Instead of building for enrolment growth across the state, they closed schools without community consultation and threatened to sell them off.

The Newman-Nicholls Government had a hit list of more than 50 state schools they planned to close.

As Treasurer, Tim Nicholls forced the closure of schools across Toowoomba, Townsville and Brisbane, without proper consultation.

The Newman-Nicholls Government also failed to properly maintain the state’s then 1,234 schools and left behind a $260 million backlog of critical school maintenance.

In addition to closing schools and failing to build for enrolment growth, the Newman-Nicholls Government cut more than 500 teachers from Queensland schools, driving up pressure on class sizes.
The Palaszczuk Government’s Record

When the Palaszczuk Government was elected in 2015, we promised a better way and immediately set about reversing the cuts and neglect of the Newman-Nicholls Government.

This year our $765 million infrastructure investment is delivering new schools on the Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Townsville and Yarrabilba and supporting more than 3,000 jobs for Queenslanders.

We are also delivering our $200 million Advancing Queensland Schools fund building new and upgraded halls at 30 schools and capital renewal at 24 schools.

Most importantly, we have also delivered on our commitment to properly maintain the 25,000 buildings in our schools.

For the first time in Queensland’s history, the Palaszczuk Government has committed to the industry standard of investing 1 per cent of asset replacement value annually towards school maintenance.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering a $750 million rolling maintenance program over four years. We have already reduced the Newman-Nicholls Government’s maintenance backlog by more than $100 million in just three budgets.
Our Plans: Putting Queenslanders First

Building Future Schools for Queensland

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will boost our $500 million Building Future Schools for Queensland fund by an additional $308 million to deliver world class schools for our students.

The $808 million Building Future Schools for Queensland fund is delivering:

- A new secondary school on the Fortitude Valley State School site in partnership with the Queensland University of Technology. This is the site the former Newman-Nicholls Government closed and was preparing to sell
- A new secondary school in the inner city south in partnership with the University of Queensland
- Expansion of West End State School
- Expansion of the Queensland Academy for Science, Mathematics and Technology to formalise the current outreach program onsite at the Toowong campus
- A new classical dance facility in conjunction with Queensland Ballet at the Kelvin Grove State College campus
- Master planning for all schools within 5 kilometres of the Brisbane CBD, along with schools in the 5-10 kilometre ring that are impacted by the inner-city schools
- Strategic land acquisitions.
A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will inject a further $308 million into our Building Future Schools for Queensland fund to meet growing demand for state schools and deliver ten new schools in growth areas.

We will deliver two new primary schools and seven new secondary schools in the growth areas of Ipswich, Yarrabilba, North Lakes/Mango Hill, Northern Gold Coast, Calliope, west of Gladstone and Brisbane City.

The fund will also support a new special school to relieve pressure on existing special education facilities in the Caboolture area.

This includes the construction of the last primary school of the Public Private Partnership agreement at Springfield West.

We will deliver the following new schools within four years:

**New Primary Schools**
- Springfield West
- Ripley Valley

**New Special School**
- Caboolture

**New Secondary Schools**
- North Lakes/Mango Hill
- Coomera/Pimpama
- Yarrabilba
- Calliope (West of Gladstone)
- Fortitude Valley Brisbane
- Brisbane Inner City south
- Ripley Valley (Ipswich)
We will also begin planning for the following new schools:

**Primary Schools**
- Palmview
- Logan Reserve
- Shaw (Townsville)
- Mount Peter (Cairns)

**Special Schools**
- Northern end of Gold Coast
- Sunshine Coast

**Secondary Schools**
- Caloundra South

**High School Renewal**
A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will roll out a $235 million high school renewal and refurbishment program.

This investment will support 17 high schools across Queensland, all more than 30 years old.

For many of these high schools, this program will support the most significant infrastructure improvement to the school facilities in decades, providing improved learning facilities and opportunities for stronger engagement in their communities.

Schools – in consultation with their local community – will be central to planning the renewal, which could include the construction of a learning centre, repurposing classrooms, art spaces and laboratories, repainting and recarpeting.

Upgrades will take place over four years to deliver better education opportunities and promote state education as a quality option for the local families.
The 17 schools are:
- Aspley State High School
- Bundaberg State High School
- Cairns State High School
- Mansfield State High School
- Mitchelton State High School
- Toowoomba State High School
- Corinda State High School
- Proserpine State High School
- Springwood State High School
- Maryborough State High School
- Indooroopilly State High School
- Tropical North Learning Academy (Smithfield State High School/Trinity Beach State High School)
- Sarina State High School
- Heatley Secondary College
- Everton Park State High School
- Ferny Grove State High School

**Maintaining better schools**

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will also continue to deliver a rolling four-year $750 million maintenance program. We have already reduced the Newman-Nicholls Government’s $260 million maintenance backlog by more than $100 million. We are determined to ensure that every school is maintained to the highest possible standard.

Our commitment includes $150 million for maintenance and a further $54 million for the School Infrastructure Enhancement program committed in the 2017-18 Budget.