

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP

Perth Waldorf School Open Day & Fair

Saturday, 29 August, 2020

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys

My wife Pat and I are delighted to participate in the school's annual open day event. Having been on Council at the time of the decisions around the planning & eventual construction of the school I have always been a strong advocate for all the school represents in the community.

I acknowledge the Wadjuk people of the Nyungar nation who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we have gathered today and I pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who may be present today.

I acknowledge Marie Taylor, Noongar Elder and I look forward to hearing her 'Welcome to Country' shortly. Marie is a great friend of our City and a tireless contributor to the community.

The school's location amongst the bushland setting and the nearby Beelihar Wetlands and Banksia Woodlands provides the perfect backdrop for a learning environment at the forefront of education systems in Western Australia.

I thank the school for the warm welcome that we receive on each and every occasion whether it is events such as today, our visits to absorb the amazing year 12 presentations, to respond to invitations to talk with students prior to and on return from their exchange programs or during casual visits to the school.

The Steiner Education pathway is without doubt one of the best education systems I have personally observed from the many visits I have made to pre-primary, primary and secondary schools.

It seems to have a balance that challenges and prepares students for an education pathway that enables them to aspire to achieving the very best they can in a supportive and caring environment.

Today is an opportunity for those seeking the information they need to determine if their child will become part of the school community going forward. In my opinion, classroom visits, talking to teachers and support staff, current students and parents will paint a picture of complete satisfaction and excellence in learning.

Pat & I always look forward to the visits to the classrooms and admiring the schoolwork presented for viewing by visitors.

We also look forward to the craft areas and community information on display. It is an ideal way to raise funds for the school and to see how connectivity across the community works in a fun environment.

I am also waiting to visit the food stalls and school canteen to decide my lunch options, however before that I will be heading to the Williams Hall for the 'Welcome to Country' ceremony and the choirs, orchestra, ensembles and music performances.

Again, I thank the school community for the opportunity for Pat and I to be here today and declare the School's Open Day and Fair Officially Open. Thank you and enjoy your day.