

SUSAN BRUSE — WYALKATCHEM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Statement by Member for Central Wheatbelt

MS M.J. DAVIES (Central Wheatbelt — Leader of the Opposition) [12.52 pm]: I rise to pay tribute to Mrs Susan Bruse, a very special person who at the end of this year will retire from a teaching career at Wyalkatchem District High School that has spanned 50 years. Susan has taught across all areas of the school and departs having been a loyal, hardworking and committed deputy principal since 2003. She leaves a truly remarkable legacy.

There are families in which the parents, kids and now grandkids have had the benefit of her strong, supportive, no-nonsense and passionate approach to education. A large alumni from our school can attest to the positive impact Susan had on our formative years, which we carry with us today. As described by one of her colleagues, Susan has been the backbone of the school, an intuitive and experienced teacher who has been able to get the best out of every student. In those 50 years of teaching, Susan took just five years' leave as she and her husband, David, started a family, welcoming Holly and Jeremy before returning to teach. Her heart has been, and always will be, in Wylie, even after the tragic passing of David 20 years ago.

Susan has contributed to the school and community at every opportunity. In addition to her enduring service to education, Susan stood for shire council and served as a councillor and president of the Shire of Wyalkatchem over 11 years. She was recognised for her community service in 2014 as the Wyalkatchem Citizen of the Year, and has been a long-term member of Rotary. Mrs Bruse was my year 6 and 7 teacher. She is the mum of my dear friends Holly and Jeremy and a proud grandparent to their gorgeous kids. She has impacted the lives of so many through her commitment to education and community, and I thank her for her service and friendship.