

MOUNT LOCKYER PRIMARY SCHOOL — ALBANY

**913. Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE to the Premier:**

Before I ask my question, on behalf of the member for Swan Hills, I would like to welcome the principal, deputy principal and the amazing student leaders from Anne Hamersley Primary School in the public gallery. Hello!

I refer to the announcement this morning about the new Mount Lockyer Primary School in Albany. What does this announcement mean for this government's commitment to regional jobs and quality education?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I thank the member for the question. I am disappointed that the member for Albany did not ask this question!

**The SPEAKER:** I can.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** This morning, the member for Albany and I were at Mount Lockyer Primary School in Albany, where I addressed a school assembly. I was very pleased to be able to announce that my government, at the urging of the local P&C, the local school community and the local member of Parliament, is delivering \$15.2 million to build a new Mount Lockyer Primary School for the students of Lockyer. Lockyer is booming. It has lots and lots of kids. The school itself is 65 years old and, to be fair, is very dated. Some money was set aside as part of our election commitment—\$3 million—to upgrade the school. Having inspected the school a few months ago, talked to the community and listened to the member for Albany, I decided, in conjunction with the education minister, that we would change our commitment and rebuild the school. This will ensure that there is a state-of-the-art school for the children of Lockyer and that we do not invest money in a rebuild when a new school is really needed. Some of the buildings were part of the Building the Education Revolution and some of the buildings are newer. If possible, we will keep those buildings as part of the redevelopment. The planning will now take place. Building construction will start late next year and we expect to open the school in early 2022.

In addition, work has started on the \$10 million upgrade to North Albany Senior High School and the Albany Secondary Education Support Centre, an important development for that high school, which is also a growing school, and for the kids in the education support centre.

**The SPEAKER:** It was a good day, Premier.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** This is on top of our \$200 million school maintenance blitz that we announced a few weeks ago and part of our \$450 million infrastructure program for Western Australian schools across the state. It is expected that 200 jobs will be created to build this new school in Lockyer. Ensuring that our older schools get the attention they deserve is important. I was very pleased to announce this new school this morning for the important community of Albany and for the people of Lockyer, who I am sure will be very, very happy.