

DAVID HUNTER

Statement by Member for Kingsley

MRS J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI (Kingsley) [12.51 pm]: I rise to acknowledge Mr David Hunter, the retiring principal of St Luke's Catholic Primary School in Woodvale. A passionate Dockers supporter and family man with three daughters, he started as principal at St Luke's Primary in 2009 and retires after 37 years of serving the Catholic education communities in Perth and elsewhere in Western Australia.

David graduated from the Western Australian College of Advanced Education in Mount Lawley, now Edith Cowan University, in 1979, with a diploma of teaching and commenced teaching at St Lawrence Primary School in Bluff Point, Geraldton in 1980. He then worked as a teacher at St Denis School in Joondanna from 1982 to 1994, serving as assistant principal from 1986 to 1994. In 1994, he also completed a Bachelor of Education and began as principal of St Patrick's School in Katanning, where he served until 1999. In 2000, David moved to St Michael's School in Bassendean, where he served as principal until 2009, when he moved to St Luke's.

David was at St Denis School at the time the new Catholic schools leadership model was created. He was part of the initial pilot project for the creation of the assistant principal role, and he was formally appointed to that position at some time after that. When David commenced at St Luke's, he oversaw the Building the Education Revolution school building project, which resulted in a purpose-built arts centre that staff, students and the community are reaping the rewards of today. Over his long career, David has observed that there are many challenges in education and the role of principal has become more complex.

David can look back on his career and appreciate the importance and direct influence he has had on generations of young people. He tells me that he can retire as a contented person, happy to hand on the baton to the emerging generation of a younger, passionate and ICT-savvy leadership team. I wish David and his wife, Genevieve, all the best for this new phase in their lives, and thank him for his contribution to St Luke's Catholic Primary School in Woodvale.