



# Trish Doyle MP

## Member for Blue Mountains



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### **New South Wales Parliament Legislative Assembly**

### **Tribute to Mark Geerligs**

**20 November 2019**

It is with pleasure that I acknowledge local school Principal Mr Mark Geerligs' retirement after 33 years' service. Beginning his extraordinary teaching career in 1981, Mr Geerligs became a principal in only his seventh year as a teacher, in 1987. Mr Geerligs has enjoyed a long career as school principal in many of the Blue Mountains parish schools. In 1991 Mark was appointed principal of Our Lady of the Nativity Primary in Lawson. In 1996 he was appointed principal of St Finbar's Primary, Glenbrook, and in 2003 he was appointed principal of Our Lady of the Rosary, St Mary's.

Currently Mr Geerligs is Principal of St Canice's Primary in Katoomba, where he has provided leadership since 2014. He is an energetic, warm, open and innovative educator. He encourages critical thinking and educative projects and challenges in his team of staff and students, who value his approach to teaching and learning. He will be deeply missed by his staff, students and the wider school community. I take this opportunity to thank this good man, such an incredibly inspiring leader, for his contribution to education in the Blue Mountains. I wish him a happy and relaxing retirement.