



13 March 2009

Education Minister Tours Local Schools

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton joined the Minister for Education, Dr Liz Constable for a tour of two local schools to look at the infrastructure, facilities and programs available to local students.

The visit, initiated by Dr Mike Nahan, was designed to allow the Minister to touch base with the grass roots of education at Parkwood Primary School and Rossmoyne Senior High School.

"Visits like this help to keep the Minister for Education in touch with the students and teachers who are affected by the decisions she makes on a daily basis," said Dr Nahan.

"Dr Constable plans to visit other schools in this area during the year and these visits help her to understand and appreciate the issues that teachers, parents and P&Cs face in ensuring that students are provided with a pleasant environment that is conducive to learning."

Dr Nahan said the tour started with the Integrated Services Centre at Parkwood Primary School, which provides support for migrant families having difficulty adapting to life in Australia.

"The program addresses the social issues that migrant children bring into the classroom and allows the teachers to focus on their prime role as educators," said Dr Nahan.

The Minister and Dr Nahan then toured Rossmoyne Senior High School where they were joined by Hon Christian Porter MLA, the Member for Bateman and the State's Attorney General.

"Although Rossmoyne Senior High School is located just outside my electorate, 50 percent of the school's student base comes from families who live in my electorate, 44% from families who live in the Bateman electorate and 6% from outside the school catchment area," said Dr Nahan.

"That is why I have such an interest in Rossmoyne Senior High School and the development of its innovative programs. There is a need for major repairs and maintenance at Rossmoyne and I am also very keen to assist the school to further develop its specialised language centre to focus on Mandarin."

"It was a pleasure meeting so many of the students and teachers at the two schools and I am sure the Minister benefitted from seeing the facilities, the school's needs and its innovative programs first hand."