




Speech by

Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR ALBERT

Hansard Thursday, 31 May 2012

SHOWCASE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOLS

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (3.51 pm): I am delighted to congratulate the many Albert electorate schools that were regional finalists in the Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools 2012 competition. This is a truly impressive achievement and I am delighted to see such innovation in the development of educational programs. The Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools are prestigious state government awards for the development of new educational programs. The awards highlight the distinguished excellence in teaching practices and give schools the opportunity to share their innovative programs with other educators.

Education requires continual progression in practices and delivery methods. The awards recognise the programs and methods developed and implemented by educators who use their creative genius to deliver and cultivate the development of students' fine minds. The poet Mark Van Doren once said, 'The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.' The showcase awards are about the discovery of new approaches to learning. I support and congratulate all the staff who participated in the development of these new programs, which are making a real difference in educational outcomes for young people.

Education is about unlocking doors. I was proud to see so many schools of the Albert electorate reach the regional finals. Mount Warren Park State School created a program called 'Believing in success reading club', which has assisted students in building their reading skills and confidence. Upper Coomera State College and Coomera Springs State School created a program titled 'NAPLAN—success coaching for year 5 and 7 students', which resulted in gains of 10 per cent in literacy and three per cent in numeracy for students who participated in 2011. Lastly, Pimpama State School was a regional winner for the intervention for improvement award. This cause has significantly improved literacy and numeracy assessment results over the past 18 months.

Being a regional award finalist is a marvellous achievement and should never be taken lightly. This type of continued innovation in education is making a real difference for our students and our future leaders. The awards are an acknowledgement of the hard work that is being undertaken in our schools. I congratulate them.