Delivering a New Remote High School

The Education Minister Paul Henderson officially opened the Territory’s newest school in the remote Central Australian community of Arlparra today.

Mr Henderson said the $3.2 million high school, 200km north-east of Alice Springs, will provide a full range of secondary education to students from years 6 to 12.

“The new school will give more Indigenous students the chance to stay in school, get a job and improve their quality of life,” Mr Henderson said.

“Education is the key to advancement and closing the gap of Indigenous disadvantage. The NT Government is committed to improving low educational outcomes among Indigenous students in remote schools.

“The establishment of a high school at Arlparra is part of our Smart Territory strategy to improve school attendance, lift literacy and numeracy levels and provide brighter futures for all Territory kids.

“Arlparra High School can cater for 120 students. Currently 77 students are enrolled but I expect that number to rise.”

Mr Henderson said the school is a modern learning facility with general learning areas fitted with interactive whiteboards and wireless computer networks, a specialised science laboratory, two home economics areas, breakout computer pods in the library and a teacher resource centre to accommodate homeland learning centre teachers.

It also features a student alfresco café area where students can access kitchen facilities to prepare lunches. It also has a double garage/workshop to house the two new school buses.

Arlparra High School was funded by the Northern Territory Government. Another $850,000 has been provided under the Australian Government’s Building the Education Revolution program to deliver a new art and music centre. This facility is due for completion in December.

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