Forging relationships with our Chinese friends

1 November 2014

Minister for Education Peter Chandler will visit the Chinese province of Anhui and the city Shanghai with 10 Territory principals and heads of various education representative organisations.

The delegation will visit schools, universities and also hold meetings to further develop of the Territory’s International Education program.

Since 2000 the Northern Territory has maintained a Friendship Agreement with Anhui Province and the relationship has been beneficial, most notably through the partnership between Anhui Normal University and Charles Darwin University (CDU).

Just last year a delegation of 12 principals from Anhui Province visited Darwin for 12 days to participate in a leadership program offered by CDU’s Centre for School Leadership.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said this visit will be a reciprocal learning opportunity.

“Principals, school representatives and I will benefit from visiting the schools and universities to gather an understanding of how they operate and how they meet their unique challenges” Mr Chandler said.

“In addition I will be promoting the Northern Territory’s international education credentials as we continue to develop the Territory as an International Education and Training Hub.

“Linking up with Asia is a key part of the government’s strategy to grow international education in the Northern Territory and make it one of our top five export industries over the next decade.

“I will attend meetings with the Anhui Government, the Minister for Education, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Austrade.

“Properly marketing the Territory as a priority destination for education, both secondary and tertiary and also training will be crucial to attracting students.

“Earlier this year, the Chief Minister launched an expression of interest process for an international grammar school in Darwin.
“To support this process I will hold round-table meetings with potential investors and education agents who identify students eager to travel to Australia for higher education and training.

“Strengthening ties with Asia makes economic and strategic sense, and it is a key part of the Country Liberals Government’s bold new push to develop the North.”

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