

**OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE LIBRARY UPGRADE AT  
STRATHMORE SECONDARY COLLEGE  
PASCOE VALE ROAD STRATHMORE VICTORIA 3041  
TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2008**

**MR KELVIN THOMSON MP  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WILLS**

Acknowledgment:

- Mr Ken Harbottle - Principal

I am delighted to be here on behalf of Julia Gillard, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education to celebrate with you the official opening of your school's library upgrade.

Congratulations to everyone in the Strathmore Secondary College community, without whom this project would not have happened. I would also like to especially acknowledge the generous contribution of funds from the school's internal resources, which has helped to make this project a success.

I was glad to discover your school motto is 'Palladem Alite' – meaning nurture, wisdom, tolerance, respect, excellence, care and honesty. These are values which plays an important part in your educational and personal development. Projects such as your library upgrade also contribute to developing these values, and I am proud to be here today to see these benefits first hand. Having access to modern and practical

library research and learning facilities will provide significant advantages for students here at Strathmore Secondary College for years to come.

I am pleased that the Australian Government can directly support you in this way and help to ensure projects like this are successful. The Australian Government has contributed over \$135,000 and the school itself a further \$30,000.

The Australian Government is committed to investing in an Education Revolution and I am excited about providing the necessary facilities to maximise learning opportunities for our children. Quality education is one of the greatest gifts we can give young Australians – because it allows our students to achieve personal success and contribute to national strength and prosperity.

Some of the exciting initiatives recently announced by our new Government that will deliver these outcomes are the *Trade Training Centres in Schools Program*, which will provide secondary schools with funding to build or upgrade trades training facilities. Another initiative, the *National Secondary School Computer Fund*, will improve secondary school student access to information and communication technology (ICT).

I would like to congratulate you for the work you have done to enhance the school's environment for this and future generations who will have the good fortune to spend time at Strathmore Secondary College.

Thank you, once again, for inviting me to be part of your special celebrations.

On that note it is my great pleasure to officially declare this library upgrade open and ready for use.

**KELVIN THOMSON MP**

**Federal Member for Wills**