



MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

Funding boost to Hinchinbrook State Schools in Budget

State schools in the Hinchinbrook electorate will have a long overdue opportunity to address a backlog of maintenance following the announcement of a major initiative to fund State School Parents and Citizens' Associations in the 2012-13 Queensland Budget.

Hinchinbrook MP, Andrew Cripps, said the Newman LNP Government had allocated \$200 million over two years to State School P&Cs through grants of up to \$160,000 per school.

"Parents of state school children will be pleased that the LNP is serious about revitalising front line services by making grants available to State School P&C associations," Mr Cripps said.

"I warmly welcome the initiatives in this budget that will improve the quality of education facilities in my electorate and fix the backlog of maintenance built up under Labor."

Other new funding initiatives in the area of education in the Hinchinbrook electorate include:

- \$200,000 for the construction of a Sports Shade Court Structure at Kennedy State School.
- \$20,000 towards planning for the enhancement of the Paluma Environmental Education Centre.

Mr Cripps said the Newman Government has allocated \$5.3 million this financial year to continue the replacement of facilities at Tully State High School damaged by Cyclone Yasi.

The LNP Government will also spend \$53.6 million over four years to rollout the equivalent of a full-time teacher aide to an additional 150 Prep classes each year in areas of greatest need.

"The Hinchinbrook electorate has already benefitted from the LNP's commitment on additional teacher aides at Cardwell, Forrest Beach, Kennedy, Macknade, Mourilyan, Rollingstone, Silkwood and South Johnstone State Schools," Mr Cripps said.

"The 2012-13 Budget allocates much-needed funds towards upgrades in my electorate that will benefit a new generation of Hinchinbrook families."

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