



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**5 April 2009**

**Media Release**

**Over \$7 million funding for Local Schools**

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, today announced a record amount of funding in infrastructure and refurbishment projects for 54 local schools, under Round One of the Rudd Labor Government's National School Pride program.

"This investment into education infrastructure is the largest of its type our country has seen," Ms Grierson said.

"The projects will provide welcome assistance to schools and their communities, and valuable support to local jobs and the economy."

The \$1.3 billion National School Pride program is the first phase of the Government's \$14.7 billion Building the Education Revolution (BER) investment.

Funding allocations for the 54 schools, government and non-government, ranged from \$7,000 up to \$200,000.

Construction and maintenance work will commence as soon as possible, with many of the National School Pride projects planned to begin this month.

"I will work closely with these schools to ensure they meet their completion deadline of 20 December, 2009."

Today's announcement starts to deliver on the BER which is a key element of the Government's \$42 billion Nation Building and Jobs Plan to stimulate local economies and invest in important infrastructure for the long term.

"I encourage local schools not covered in Round One of the National School Pride program to submit applications for Round Two, which closes 8 May 2009."

A list of all successful Newcastle schools and their planned projects can be found attached.

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