

## Submission Cover Sheet

**Title of submission:** Moranbah SHS: Different Pathways for Different Futures

**School:** Moranbah State High School

**District:** Mackay-Whitsunday

**Region:** Mackay-Whitsunday

**Key Contact Person:**

**Name:** Dean Russell

**Phone number:** 07 4949 2111

**Mobile phone number:** 0437928804

**Email address:** druss4@eq.edu.au

Please nominate (✓ or x) the Showcase category your project is to be entered into.  
(See section 1.2 of the guidelines for more information.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award for Excellence in the Early Phase of Learning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award for Excellence in the Middle Phase of Learning
X	Showcase Award for Excellence in the Senior Phase of Learning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award for Excellence in Inclusive Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award for Excellence in Leadership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award for Excellence in Innovation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award in Academic Excellence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showcase Award for Industry or Community Partnerships

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### **OPTIONAL multimedia items:**

*(For further information see guidelines appendix I)*

If included, please nominate (✓)  PowerPoint presentation

Multimedia items are not required electronically. A maximum of TWO items are to be supplied on ONE compact disc with the hard copy.

- Submission required in hard AND electronic copy
- Maximum FIVE pages of submission information and TEN pages of appendixes
- Minimum font size of 11 points
- Multimedia material OPTIONAL

For further details see guidelines section 3.2 – How to Enter

SIGNATURE/S OF PRINCIPAL

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Date

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***To be completed by the Executive Director (Schools) after completion of the checklist:***

I support this submission and its entry in the Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools 2006. This submission meets the requirements set out in the Executive Director's Checklist.

**Signature of Executive Director (Schools)**

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**Date**

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# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

**Submission overview:** Moranbah SHS has developed a choice of senior pathways for its students which maximises the chances of success for all. Academic and vocational students are catered for with diverse opportunities ranging from standard academic programs, Bachelor Degree subjects studied externally through The University of Queensland, School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships and a multitude of Vocational Certificate Options. This array of opportunities has been made possible through the initiation of partnerships with The University of Queensland, TAFE, mining, business and industry sectors. Moranbah SHS strives to create ***Different Pathways for Different Futures***.

### Description:

#### BACKGROUND

Moranbah SHS has always had a proud academic tradition. Strong results have been in place since the late 1990s. There was however, the need to maintain this record and to expand the current offerings. This was a complex proposition for a rural school some distance from a major centre. High achieving students also had few options within the academic program. Less than 30% of year 12 graduates (on average) continued onto university each year, leaving a significant number of students for whom the current academic program may not be entirely suitable.

In 2004, Moranbah SHS administration embarked on a bold plan to:

- Maintain the current (highly effective) academic program and expand online offerings.
- Initiate a partnership with a major university to provide opportunities for high-achieving students.
- Establish partnerships with the industry, mining and business sectors to create more school-based apprenticeships and traineeships.
- Building links with TAFE to offer more Vocational Certificate course options.
- Construction of a Coalfields Skills Centre to be accessed as a venue for training.

Success was achieved by:

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Current Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) subjects have remained a priority. Staff have continually undertaken professional development aimed at improving program delivery in these subjects. Moderation Panel membership has also been promoted as a key ingredient of success. Faculties have been encouraged to expand the array of academic options available through the implementation of new QSA subjects. The Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS) has remained a major priority with a year long preparation program and a full dressed rehearsal test the month before the final sitting.

#### VIRTUAL SCHOOLING / DISTANCE EDUCATION

Information technology upgrades and a highly efficient management system has enabled students at Moranbah SHS to maximise their Virtual School Service and / or School of Distance Education experience. The scope of subjects on offer through these avenues has been increased, enabling Moranbah SHS to overcome the tyranny of distance and some of the complexity which comes from being located in a rural location. Staff with expertise have been assigned as study coaches to support students completing a VSS / SDE subject.

#### HIGH ACHIEVING STUDENTS

The University of Queensland and Moranbah SHS have forged an alliance which is producing significant outcomes for high achieving students. The alliance has enabled high achieving students to undertake Bachelor Degree subjects at The University of Queensland in their fields of excellence as a part of their regular Year 11 and 12 program.

#### SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIPS / TRAINEESHIPS

Moranbah SHS has undertaken a large scale promotion activity with the industry, mining and business sectors, in order to increase the number of school-based apprenticeship / traineeship hosts accessible to its students. This has taken the form of personal visits to work sites, awareness raising through local media and addresses made at industry functions. A module mentoring system has been implemented to ensure Certificate completion.

*MORANBAH SHS: DIFFERENT PATHWAYS FOR DIFFERENT FUTURES*

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSES

Vocational Certificate options have been a major priority at Moranbah SHS. These courses are delivered both in the regular timetable as school-based subjects and as after school sessions. A major partnership with Central Queensland Institute of TAFE has enabled this situation to eventuate.

### STUDENTS AT RISK

Students at risk of leaving school are supported through individual programs developed by the Student Behaviour Support Teacher. This involves one on one counselling, supported School-based Traineeships and participation in self-esteem adventure camps. A partnership has also been established with Mackay and District Education Centre (MADEC- RTO) to provide learning opportunities for at-risk students.

### COALFIELDS SKILLS CENTRE

Construction is about to commence on a significant training centre at Moranbah SHS. The Coalfields Skill Centre is due for completion in late 2006 and will serve as a high quality vocational training centre; not just for Moranbah SHS but for all schools in the Coalfields region who are seeking a quality training venue. The centre has been made possible through sponsorship by ANTA and stakeholders in the Moranbah mining sector.

### LEADERSHIP

All vocational levers within the senior pathways program have been merged as a single initiative known as WISDOM (Work Industry Skills Development of Moranbah). This is a team of five staff, led by a Deputy Principal, who are leading the vocational education and training agenda not just at Moranbah SHS, but in the mining community.

### SUSTAINABILITY

The following deliberate and tailored strategies were utilised to **ensure sustainability** of this initiative:

- Recruitment of long-term residents of Moranbah as key stakeholders in the initiative (VET Coordinator and SAT Coordinator)
- Devolving partial leadership of The University of Queensland – Moranbah SHS Alliance to a long-term Head of Department.
- Convincing parents and students that VET pathways were a meaningful and valid alternative to an OP program for those students who did not wish to go on to university. The wave of interest generated by this cultural shift has permeated the community, industry and mining sectors.
- Reconfiguring the timetable into a four day program, allowing flexibility for senior students.
- Establishing long-term targets around success in the senior phase in Triennial School Review and Annual Reporting processes.
- Ensuring that the vocational program could survive a downturn in the commodities sector by spreading certificate options across many business / industry sectors (not just coal mining).

### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

**Moranbah SHS: Different Pathways for Different Futures aligns with, commits to and meaningfully enacts the following strategic agendas:**

#### The Smart State Agenda:

- Ensuring the education level and skills of all Queenslanders are up with the best in the world.

#### Queensland State Education – 2010:

- Enhancing the quality of the education experience for all students.
- Students completing 12 years of schooling are more likely to find careers than those who don't.
- Flexibility introduced into senior secondary schooling to allow students to mix and match components of pathways.
- Increasing articulation and collaboration with universities.
- Strengthening the coordination of school and post-school programs.
- Reinventing the schools as a dynamic learning organization.

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## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### Destination 2010:

Destination 2010 is the document which provides the performance indicators which schools strive for. Successful attainment of these targets is considered to be a trait of an effective school within Education Queensland. Different Pathways for Different Futures contributes to the following Performance Indicators for Moranbah SHS:

- LE2.1: Percentage of students and parents / caregivers satisfied that they are getting a good education at school.
- LE3.1: Apparent retention of students from year 8 to year 12
- LE 3.2: Percentage of students awarded a Senior Certificate who have also achieved one or more vocational education and training (VET) certificates at Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) level 1 or higher.
- LE 3.3: Percentage of year 12 students who achieve a sound or better level of achievement in three or more Authority subjects.
- SC 1.3: Percentage of students continuing across the key junctures- year 10 to year 11.
- SC3.1: Percentage of parents / caregivers satisfied that the school is a good school.

### ETRF:

- Action 8- We will enhance learning options that provide greater flexibility for 15-17 year olds.
- Action 10- We will enhance distance, online and virtual education provision.
- Action 11- We will make sure that young people who undertake vocational education and training in schools achieve qualifications that are highly regarded by industry.
- Action 12- We will provide more school-based apprenticeships and traineeships.
- Action 14- We will investigate ways of giving young people equitable, affordable access to vocational education and training in schools and TAFE.
- Action 16- We will help young people improve participation in learning to achieve qualifications.

## OUTCOMES

### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

- No student has received lower than a Sound Achievement in English across 2004-2005.
- Total of QSA Subjects available at Moranbah SHS has increased from 16-19 across 2004-2006. Information Processing and Technology, Ancient History and Modern History were new additions.
- OP 1-15 has remained constant at 63% of eligible students across 2004-2005.
- 82.8% of all students received a C or better in the 2005 QCS test.
- Students receiving a QTAC offer have increased from 93% in 2004 to 96% in 2005.  
(Source: Student Data Capture System and QSA)

### VIRTUAL SCHOOLING / DISTANCE EDUCATION

- 59 students have completed / currently undertaking a QSA subject through VSS / SDE since 2004.
- Students have full 1:1 computer access and dedicated study room during lesson times.
- VSS / SDE are regarded as genuine and meaningful study option by students and parents.  
(Source: Student Data Capture System)

### HIGH ACHIEVING STUDENTS

- There are 3 students who have participated in Bachelor Degree subjects at The University of Queensland in Semester 1, 2006 (Mathematics and Environmental Management).
- There are 5 students commencing a Bachelor Degree subject at the University of Queensland in Semester 2, 2006 (Chemistry and Biology).
- This is the first occasion a school outside of South-East Queensland has had more than one student enrolled at The University of Queensland in a Bachelor Degree subject at one time.

### SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIPS / TRAINEESHIPS

- Anglo and Macarthur become first Mining Companies in Moranbah Region to offer trade SATs (Diesel Fitting) in 2006.
- Total SATs increases from 28-55 across 2004-2006. The current total of 55 SATs is across the following Certificates:

*MORANBAH SHS: DIFFERENT PATHWAYS FOR DIFFERENT FUTURES*



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## Awards for Excellence in Schools

- Certificate II in Hospitality
  - Certificate II in Business Admin
  - Certificate II in Retail
  - Certificate III in Electrotechnology - Refrigeration
  - Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics
  - Certificate II in Salon Practices
  - Certificate II in Electrotechnology - Servicing
  - Certificate III in Diesel Fitting
  - Certificate III in Child Care Services
  - Certificate II in Automotive - Light Tyre Fitting
  - Certificate II in Information Tech
  - Certificate III in Financial Services
  - Certificate III in Auto Electrical
  - Certificate III in Patient Service Assistance- Allied Health
  - Certificate III in Patient Service Assistance- Client / Patient Service
  - Certificate III in Refrigeration / Electrical
  - Certificate III in General Construction- Carpentry
  - Certificate II in Engineering Construction
  - Certificate III in Live Production Theatre & Events- Technical Operations
  - Certificate II in Mining Operations  
**(first school in Queensland to offer this Certificate)**
- All SAT students have Certificate progress and completion monitored through new module mentoring system.
  - SATs make major contribution to sustainability of Moranbah. Evidenced through: 2004 student who completed SAT through Moranbah SHS now hosts own 2006 SAT student in local business.
  - 9 students complete SAT in 2005
  - 5 students roll SAT over to part-time traineeship at end of 2005
  - 1 student rolls SAT over to full-time traineeship at end of 2005
  - 12 students projected to complete SAT in 2006
  - 3 students projected to roll SAT over to part-time traineeship at end of 2006
  - 2 students projected to roll SAT over to full-time traineeship at end of 2006
  - 2 Year 12 Students win **Commonwealth Government Vocational Student Prize** in 2005 for excellence in SATs

### VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSES

- Total of school-based Certificate options available to students at Moranbah SHS through timetable and after school programs increases from 9-14 across 2004-2006. Namely:
    - Certificate I/II in Business
    - Certificate I in Engineering
    - Certificate I in Sport and Recreation
    - Certificate II in Fitness
    - Certificate II in Sport
    - Certificate I/II in Communication for the Workplace
    - Certificate I in Work Readiness
    - Certificate I in Hospitality
    - Certificate I/II in Information Technology
    - Certificate I in Beauty
    - Certificate I in Electrotechnology
    - Certificate I in Automotive
    - Certificate III in Children's Services
    - Certificate III in Laboratory Skills
- (Source: QSA Scope of Registration and school records)
- 133 Certificates issued in 2005 (72 x Certificate II / 61 x Certificate I)

### COALFIELDS SKILLS CENTRE

- The Coalfields Skill Centre is attracting the interest of stakeholders in the vocational education and training sector across the state. Construction is due for completion later this year.

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### STUDENTS AT RISK

- Students at risk of leaving school are engaged in vocational pathways through school-based certificate options and / or School-based Traineeships, supported by the Student Behaviour Support Teacher. These students will be participating in a self-esteem building adventure camp in August of this year.
- Eight students are progressing through a Certificate I in Work Readiness through partnership with MADEC.

### LEADERSHIP

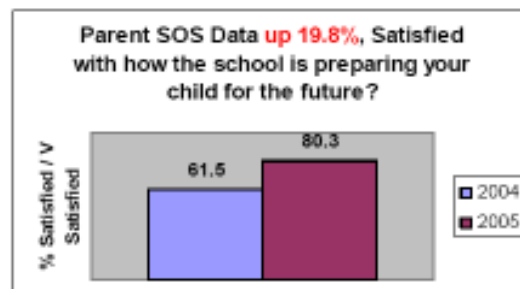
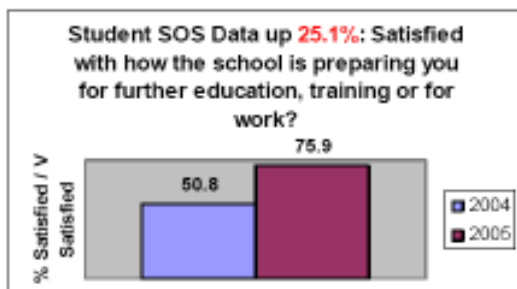
- WISDOM Initiative has been publicized as example of ETRF best practice in:
  - Mackay-Whitsunday Region ETRF Newsletter
  - The Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton Newspaper)
  - CQ Country Life (Emerald Publication)
  - Education Views
  - Channel 7 News

### SCHOOL / COMMUNITY

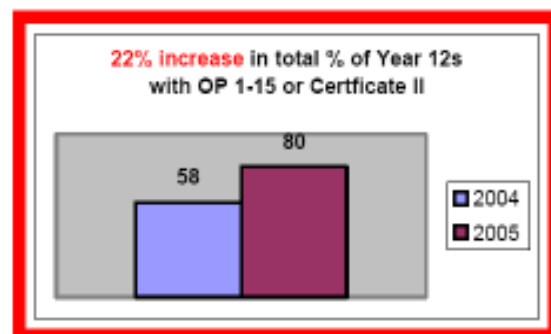
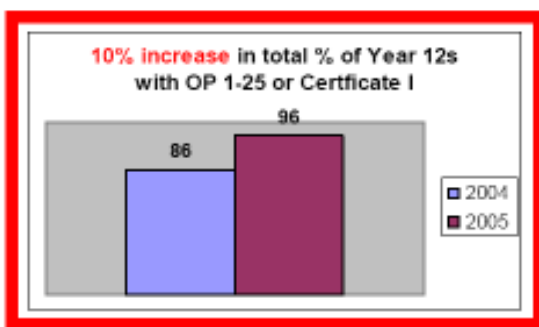
- Moranbah SHS regarded in education and training arena as a leader in senior phase education.
- According to school and / or community information, **100%** of Year 12 graduating cohort are in work, further training, or a combination of both.
- Moranbah SHS is state finalist (one of three schools) in **Queensland Training Awards (Excellence in VET in Schools)**, 2006.
- Moranbah SHS selected as hub school for **Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy** and **Advanced Design and Manufacturing** largely due to high-quality VET programs and new partnerships with mining sector.
- Teacher at Moranbah SHS wins Education Queensland **Teacher Excellence Award** for success in establishing senior phase pathways, in 2006.

### Evidence:

#### SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY DATA



#### CREDENTIALLING



(Source: Corporate Data Warehouse, QSA and School Records)

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

**Other documentation:** *(Other documentation that describes the significance of the achieved outcomes. These items should be presented as an appendix.)*

The following appendix items **MUST** be included:

- a signed supporting statement from the principal
- a signed supporting statement from the parents and citizens' association

A statement from any other person or organisation with an interest in the submission is optional.

### **Personnel involved in the project (names and roles):**

List of Appendices:

- **Appendix A-** Letter of support from Parents and Citizens Association
- **Appendix B-** Letter of Support from Moranbah SHS Principal
- **Appendix C-** Testimonial letter from General Manager of Mine Site
- **Appendix D-** Case study of Moranbah SHS Student
- **Appendix E-** Copy of Moranbah SHS Newsletter
- **Appendix F-** Copy of Moranbah SHS Newsletter
- **Appendix G-** Newspaper article from Moranbah Midweek
- **Appendix H-** newspaper article from Rockhampton Morning Bulletin
- **Appendix I-** Article from Education Views
- **Appendix J-** Personnel involved in the project



# Showcase 2006

Awards for Excellence in Schools

## APPENDIX A

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### **MORANBAH STATE HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 63

Moranbah Qld 4744

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President: Lorelle Phillips  
Vice President: Margaret Faulkner

Treasurer: Gayle Smith  
Secretary: Carol Denney

23 June 2006

Dear Showcase Awards Panel,

Moranbah SHS has an extremely diverse and varied array of vocational options for its senior students. Students who are aiming for a trade, a career in the business arena, or who are looking to do further vocational training post-school, are all catered for.

Students can choose between school-based vocational subjects, School-based Apprenticeships / Traineeships and a multitude of Vocational Certificate options. I believe that this enables our school to cater for all senior students.

I am quite sure that the options on offer at Moranbah SHS have contributed to our tremendous year 12 data. In 2005, 80% of our students graduated with either an OP 1-15 or a Certificate II. Few schools could claim such an achievement.

Moranbah SHS deserves its reputation as a leader for senior phase vocational education and as a result, the *Different Pathways for Different Futures* initiative has my full support.

Yours truly,

Lorelle Phillips  
President

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX B



# MORANBAH SHS

#### Communications:

Postal Address  
PO Box 63  
Moranbah Q 4744



Phone: 4941 2111  
Fax: 4941 2100

Principal: Mr James Sloman ❖ Deputy Principals: Mr Anthony Pickett & Mr Dean Russell ❖ Registrar: Mrs Kelly Crispin  
▶▶▶▶▶▶

[www.moranbahshs.qld.edu](http://www.moranbahshs.qld.edu)

23 June 2006

Dear Showcase Awards Panel,

At Moranbah State High School we have been working hard at creating the pathways that allow students to pursue their own post school options. We recognise that credentialing and portability are vital components for young people as they transition into these pathways. As a staff we have accepted that this requires new ways of working and new partnerships, networks and alliances. Much of our work has gone into building these partnerships and this has resulted in significant outcomes for students.

Our efforts around this have enabled a Senior Phase program that enables each young person with their own unique set of skills, aptitudes and aspirations the opportunity to leave school with a set of competencies, scores or credentials that will give them a meaningful opportunity to succeed once they leave school.

We are understandably proud of our results. In 2005, 96% of our graduating year 12s had either an OP 1-25 or a Certificate I, while 80% had either an OP 1-15 or a Certificate II. These results speak for themselves.

The *Different Pathways for Different Futures* submission has my full support.

Yours truly,

James Sloman  
Principal



# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX C

MACARTHUR COAL  
(C & M Management)  
ABN 69 027 495 992



**Coppabella Coal Mine:**  
Peak Downs Highway  
PO Box 193  
Nebo Qld 4742  
Tel: (617) 4958 0206  
Fax: (617) 4958 0008

28 April 2006

File Ref: L:\1300 Govt & Industry\060428LT Skills Centre Support.doc

To Whom It May Concern:

As General Manager of a major mine site in the Moranbah region, it has been refreshing to see a school like Moranbah State High School be so proactive in their efforts to create links that build partnerships for the benefit of their students.

The vocational and training agenda is of great significance in our region. The national skills shortage has impacted on this agenda and Moranbah State High School is doing their best to overcome it. I see the work being done preparing students for the workforce through certificate options and school-based apprenticeships. So impressed were we with this work, that we became the first mine site in the Moranbah region to take on a trade based school based apprenticeship this year. This has been a great success for us and the students involved.

Moranbah State High School has succeeded in gaining a reputation for quality vocational training while maintaining its academic reputation in the wider community. This augers well for students in our region, who have a great chance of success at Moranbah State High School regardless of their career ambitions.

Moranbah State High School High has my full support as a quality educational institution and a vital contributor to the sustainability of the Moranbah region.

Yours faithfully

**MACARTHUR COAL (C & M Management) Pty Ltd**

**MARK TURNER**

*Vice President – Open Cut Northern District*

*General Manager - Operations*

*Site Senior Executive*



### APPENDIX D

#### **Case Study: Ashley Smith (pseudonym)**

Ashley is in Year 10 and is struggling with school. She is not academically inclined and struggles to stay focussed on these subjects. Ashley's mother fears that she will leave school. Ashley has been suspended on at least three occasions in the last year. She is frequently late to school and has a high absentee rate.

Ashley has recently commenced a School-based Traineeship at a local business, completing a Certificate II in Business Administration. Ashley has also commenced a Certificate II in Beauty Services as part of the Moranbah State High School after-school TAFE program.

Ashley is performing extremely well in her traineeship, receiving glowing reports from her host employer. Ashley is also performing well in her TAFE course, completing all requirements thus far.

Ashley has not been suspended since commencing her new vocational pathway. Teachers report a significant change in Ashley's attitude. The amount of late arrivals and absences has declined significantly.

Ashley's mother is, not surprisingly, extremely happy with Ashley's progress.

Ashley has not yet made a decision about her post-school future. She is hoping that her School-based traineeship may lead to a full time traineeship or job. A career in the beauty industry is also an attractive idea for her.

Whatever pathway Ashley chooses, she now has some real credentials and skills to take with her. She has a real future.

(Source: School Records and anecdotal conversations)



# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX E



# HIGHLIGHTS

MORANBAH STATE HIGH SCHOOL

MAXIMISE  
LEARNING

## The Weekly Newsletter of Moranbah SHS

9 March 2006

From the Principal  
**James Sloman**



**STUDENTS WITH A FUTURE!  
A FUTURE FOR OUR KIDS!**



**Every child has a unique set of talents, interests and aspirations.** Every child in a state school has a right to have these attended to and we, at Moranbah State High School accept this responsibility.

The one size fits all approach is no longer tenable! For many years schooling was about preparing a small percentage of students for university, with the successful students going to university and those who failed dropping out, getting a job or a trade. To assume any child is a failure because of this is a gross distortion of their abilities and their capacity to contribute meaningfully to society. Personally, I find such an attitude abhorrent. My goal as the principal at this school is to provide opportunities for students to become **credentialed!** This means that they leave here with a Senior Certificate, an OP score and/or some Vocational Education and Training certification. We know that a young person's life chances and job opportunities are enhanced if they are credentialed.

The reason behind this is students must have a competitive advantage in securing university places, jobs, trades or whatever! All things being equal I want to see students from this school getting the uni places or the jobs.



This school has excelled at preparing students for university and we continue to do so. Of last year's graduating cohort 98% of students were offered a place at university. This is an outstanding result and one that speaks volumes for the way in which we are preparing students for university. In fact the number of board subjects has increased from sixteen to nineteen with the inclusion of subjects such as Ancient History, the reintroduction of Music after a short absence and the delivery of face to face IPT.

There are many students though, in this school and others, both state and non-state that do not aspire to go to university! These young people have an equal right to have **their talents, interests and aspirations attended to.** This has required new ways of thinking and flexibility in what we do, and we have much to celebrate in what we have achieved for our students.



We have increased the number of School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships from less than 10 to over 55 in eighteen months. This is an outstanding achievement for the people who have been involved such as Delaney Nugent (VET Coordinator), Joanne Carr (SAT Coordinator) and Dean Russell (Deputy Principal and WISDOM Team Leader). This of course could not have occurred without the enormous support of the employers who have embraced School Based Traineeships/Apprenticeships.

The following data might be of interest where we compare the achievements of Moranbah State High School in comparison with the whole Mackay and Hinterland Region.



#### % Senior Certificate who are OP eligible &/or VET Qualification:

MSHS 96.6%                      Region 84.4%

#### Number of VET qualifications awarded:

MSHS 133                      Region 727  
(18% of the regional total)

#### Number SATs:

MSHS 55                      Region 240  
(24% of the regional total)

Regional OP 1-25 and/or Cert 1:    84.4%

MSHS OP 1- 15 and/or Cert 2:    80.4%

**ALL THIS WITH LESS THAN 9% OF THE REGIONS  
YEAR 12 STUDENTS!**

**Discover the Advantages...**

PO Box 63 Moranbah Q 4744 ♦ Phone: 4949 2111 ♦ Fax: 4949 2100 ♦ e-mail: the.principal@moranbahshs.qld.edu.au ♦ or visit: www.moranbahshs.qld.edu.au



# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX F



# HIGHLIGHTS

MORANBAH STATE HIGH SCHOOL

MAXIMISE  
LEARNING

## The Weekly Newsletter of Moranbah SHS

9 February 2006

From the Deputy Principal  
Dean Russell



Academic Success!  
The University of  
Queensland –  
Moranbah State High  
School Alliance  
marches on!



I am very proud to have such fantastic news about our academic program to report in my first edition of the newsletter for 2006. As reported last year, *The University of Queensland – Moranbah State High School Alliance* was forged as a learning partnership for Teachers and Students at our school to learn and take part in the University experience.

Last year, places in Masters Degree courses (sponsored by our school and The University of Queensland) were approved for Mr Jacob Stanton (Physical Education), Miss Melissa Frederickson (Behaviour Support) and Miss Jacinta Tillack (Guidance and Counseling). These three teachers have demonstrated their ongoing commitment to the school by taking up these places. Why have they done this? For one reason only; to gain the skills to provide an even higher level of support and education to their students. Outstanding effort!



Now for the **BIG** story. This week, we heard the sensational news we have been waiting for since late last year. Three of our Year 12 students have been accepted into Bachelor Degree subjects to be completed as a part of their regular Year 12 program. Krystal Brookes (Mathematics), Amit Singh (Mathematics) and Megan Symington (Environmental Management). This is a tremendous achievement for these three scholars! It is also worth mentioning that Moranbah State High School is the first school outside of a metropolitan area to have more than one student enrolled in a Bachelor Degree subject at The University of Queensland at any one time. We have three! Negotiations are currently taking place for another five students to participate in Semester 2, later this year. This is another example of the *superb academic opportunities* available for students at Moranbah State High School.

Our congratulations go out to the teachers and students participating in *The University of Queensland – Moranbah State High School Alliance!*

### Induction Ceremony

Last Friday we held the annual *Induction Ceremony of School Leaders* at the Community Centre. This event was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the leadership and quality of our students. Congratulations to all students inducted as school leaders. The entire student body also deserves congratulations for their excellent behaviour throughout the event.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS:	Krystal Brookes Amit Singh
SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS:	Melanie Phillips Mark Jozinovic
SPORTS CAPTAINS:	Angelo Exposito Brittany Fenech
STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT:	Brittany Witherspoon Michael McLaughlin (vice)

BARADA HOUSE CAPTAINS:	Jodie Addis Daniel Fritz Courtney Becht (Junior)
JANINA HOUSE CAPTAINS:	Hether McGrath Toby Evers Larissa Lawrence (Junior)
KERLONG HOUSE CAPTAINS:	Brendan Firman Alayce Johnston Amy Flanders (Junior)
WANGAN HOUSE CAPTAINS:	Damien Sparr Zac Wood (Junior)

### New Timetable

Can I take this opportunity to thank parents and students alike for their tremendous support of our new 4 day senior timetable. The Wednesday Log Book appears to be a huge success with students doing their best to make sure the correct information is recorded. Can I remind everybody that a teacher is in room A1 all day on a Wednesday for students to access if for any reason they wish to come to school.

### Spare Lessons

Spare lessons are no more! All Year 11 and 12 students will next week be issued with a new timetable. All 'spares' or 'gaps' in the timetable as a result of students 'dropping' a subject (because of Traineeships, Apprenticeships, Virtual Schooling, Distance Education etc) have been replaced with a timetabled Study subject. These study lessons are fully supervised by a teacher and a roll is marked- just like a regular class. Of course, students are no longer permitted to return home or be in any other part of the school during these lessons. This is a part of our commitment to ensure that we *maximise the learning* of our Year 11 and 12 students.

Discover the Advantages...

PO Box 83 Moranbah Q 4744 ♦ Phone: 4949 2111 ♦ Fax: 4949 2100 ♦ e-mail: the.principal@moranbahshs.eq.edu.au ♦ or visit: www.moranbahshs.eq.edu.au



# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX G (Moranbah Midweek)



PHOTO: Moranbah State High Principal James Sloman, left, and deputy principal Dean Russell, right, with students Amit Singh, centre, Krystal Brookes and Megan Symington.

Picture: RICHELLE RAE.

## Taste of university at school

WHILE the school year has kicked off, three Moranbah State High Grade Twelve students have more on their academic plates than many Queensland students.

Amit Singh, Megan Symington and Krystal Brookes are currently undertaking university courses on top of their board registered subjects, with hopes to get an edge in their prospective tertiary studies.

The University of Queensland Moranbah State High School Alliance "Learning for the New Millennium" is one of a kind, introducing university subjects to high school students externally.

"This is a huge deal," said Moranbah State High deputy principal Dean Russell.

"This is a really innovative program. The university is targeting us for research because it's such a great program," he said.

The co-sponsored program would not have been made possible without the drive from one University of Queensland professor.

"It's been made possible by Adrian Ashman, head of the Education Faculty at the University of Queensland," Mr Russell said.

"It gives them a taste of uni."

Amit Singh said he is thankful to the teachers who nominated him for the experience.

"We were given the opportunity and you take them as they come. I have talked to the teachers and they have offered to help with everything we need," he said.

Amit is joined by fellow student Krystal Brookes. They are hoping to complete their maths subject in semester one.

"I plan to go to uni and study civil engineering. I

plan to move to JCU and live in Townsville," Krystal said.

"It will give me a preview as I am still tossing up what I want to do when I finish school," Megan said.

She is deliberating between studies in medicine and business.

Moranbah State principal James Sloman said this was a great opportunity for his students.

"This is the first time any school in Queensland is doing it like this," Mr Sloman said.

"My role is facilitating pathways with tertiary providers. And I'm currently in discussion with two other universities to provide pathways for academic kids," he said.

The students are also joined by four Moranbah State High teachers who are undertaking their Masters of Education Studies.

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

**APPENDIX H**  
(Rockhampton Morning Bulletin)

# School tackles skills shortage

By PAULA HELLAN

A MORANBAH High School initiative is resulting in extraordinary links between Moranbah's mining, business and industry sectors and the school — creating exciting opportunities for senior students in Moranbah and effectively addressing the national skills shortage.

Work Industry Skills Development of Moranbah State High School (WISDOM), led by MHS deputy principal Dean Russell, aims to develop the future and sustainability of the Moranbah community through high quality vocational education and training.

"We have been able to build a vast amount of support and commitment from the mining, business and industry sectors which has allowed our programs, including school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, structured work placements and work experience to excel," Mr Russell said.

"WISDOM is unique in that we have a collective team of co-ordinators working together to forge partnerships between the school and its

community and, as a result, is creating real job opportunities for our students."

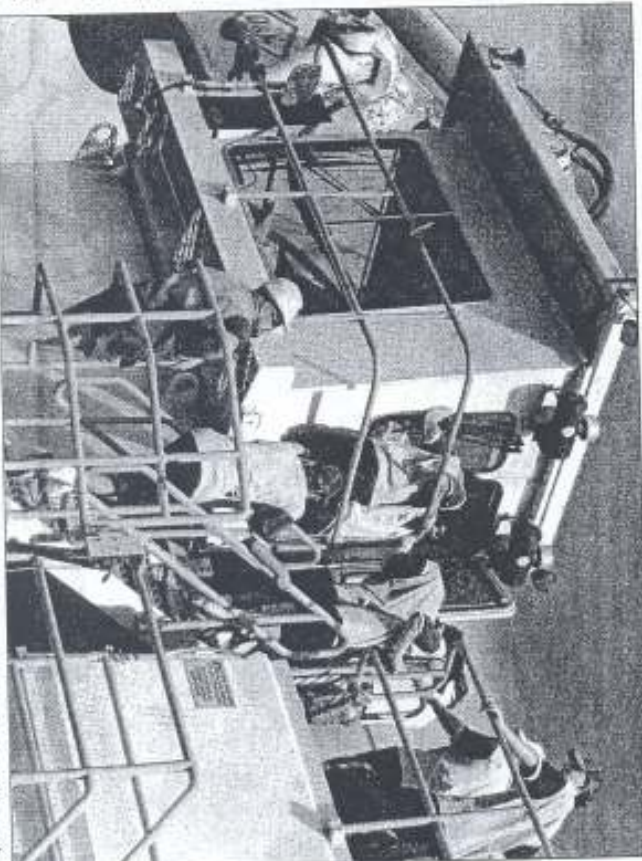
The program encompasses the development of the Coalfields Engineering Skills Centre (construction to commence later this year at MHS), school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, TAFE, vocational education and training programs, external quality assurance and programs for students at risk of disengaging from school.

"The Coalfields Engineering Skills Centre will provide a venue for vocational education and training not just for Moranbah, but for all centres in the Central Highlands' coalfields," Mr Russell explained.

"After school TAFE is already being delivered and by 2006 will appear in the timetable as a regular subject."

"School-based apprenticeships and traineeships are a high priority and at present 55 students are involved in one of these arrangements.

Alternative school-based and industry programs are also being established to cater for students who are at risk of disengaging from school.



**WORK EXPERIENCE:** Moranbah State High School students taking part in a work experience program at a Moranbah Mine Site. Picture by PAULA HELLAN.



# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX I (Education Views)

See the Future

Education and Training  
Reforms for the Future

## A little WISDOM goes a long way

A NEW initiative at Moranbah State High School is allowing the school to take a more holistic approach to the delivery of its vocational education and training (VET) programs.

The Work Industry Skills Development of Moranbah (WISDOM) initiative was launched recently at the school's annual industry breakfast.

Deputy principal Dean Russell said WISDOM was developed to bring a number of different VET programs together under the one umbrella so they could be better coordinated and to improve the VET options for students.

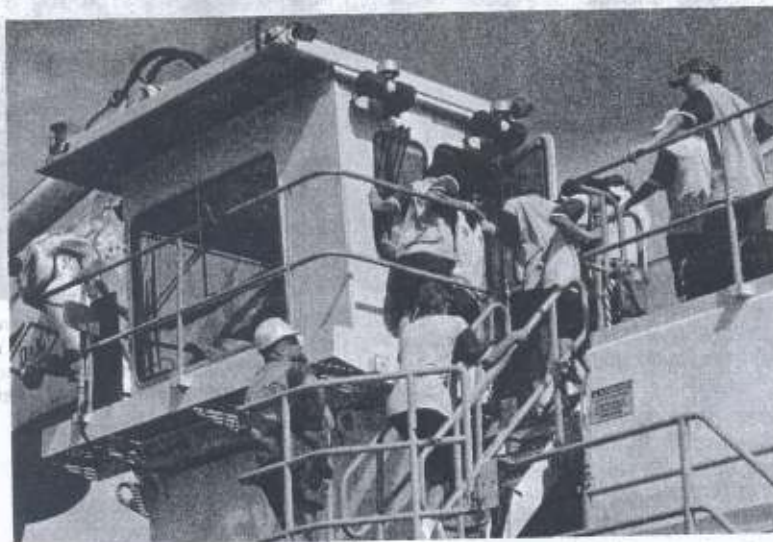
"The WISDOM initiative aims to develop the reputation of Moranbah State High School as a centre that provides high quality vocational education and training," Mr Russell said.

"We're in the middle of a national skills shortage and we believe we are doing something meaningful about it.

"This is bigger than just our school – it's about jobs for our kids and the sustainability of our community."

The WISDOM team is made up of key people involved in coordinating VET at the school and in the community.

Along with initiative leader Mr Russell, the team behind WISDOM includes Moranbah State High School principal James Sloman, Vocational Education coordinator Delaney Nugent, who manages TAFE and other VET programs, student behaviour support teacher Melissa Frederickson, who coordinates programs for students at risk of disengaging from school and Central Highlands Innovative Education Foundation officer Kirsty Wright, who coordinates school-based apprenticeships and



Moranbah State High School students take part in a work experience program at a Moranbah mine site.

traineeships.

"We have a cohesive, unified team forging partnerships and creating opportunities for students in Moranbah," Mr Russell said.

A key project for the school is the establishment of the Coalfields Engineering Skills Centre, which is being overseen by the school principal.

The project is funded by the school, the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) and a local mine and represents an investment of more than \$1 million in building local skills in the mining and engineering trades.

Construction of the centre is due to start later this year and, when complete, it will provide a valuable resource for vocational education and training, not only for Moranbah, but for all the Central Highlands Coalfields area.

Along with the centre, the WISDOM initiative is also helping the school better coordinate a range of VET programs.

After-school TAFE courses are already being delivered at the school and by 2006, TAFE subjects will appear in the timetable as part of the regular selection for students.

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships are also a high priority and at present 55 students are undertaking either an apprenticeship or traineeship.

"We plan to assign a teacher mentor to each student to help them keep up with the written component of their traineeship or apprenticeship," Mr Russell said.

"Alternative school-based and industry programs are being established to cater for students who are at risk of disengaging from school."

# Showcase 2006

## Awards for Excellence in Schools

### APPENDIX J

#### **Personnel involved in the project (names and roles):**

- **James Sloman**- Principal, Moranbah SHS
- **Dean Russell**- Deputy Principal, Moranbah SHS
- **Delaney Nugent**- Vocational Education Coordinator, Moranbah SHS
- **Jo Carr**- School-based Apprenticeship / Traineeship Officer
- **Melissa Frederickson**- Student Behaviour Support Teacher
- **Hayley Hughes**- Head of Department, Social Science and Virtual School / Distance Education Coordinator, Moranbah SHS
- **Simon Korneliussen**- Teacher, Moranbah SHS
- **Trevor Eason**- Teacher, Moranbah SHS
- **Steven Peck**- Teacher, Moranbah SHS