**Every student with disability succeeding vignette transcript –**

**Mitchell State School – Paint the town Read initiative**

My name is Becky Henricks and I'm the President of the P&C at Mitchell State School. I'm really proud of our little school here. We work really hard to encourage parents and also the community to get involved with our school.

Each year the P&C approve and work with the school to come up with the theme for the year. So the P&C work closely with the teachers and also the community to bring this idea to life.

Our Paint the Town Read initiative celebrated its 10th year this year and as a school we wanted to get the community involved, not just the parents. So we went out and spoke with business houses got them involved, explaining to them the importance of literacy in the community. It's not just a school thing. We wanted to address it as a whole.

So from that we were able to get business houses who participate every year in doing a display - like a book display - in their business houses and the children are able to see that - hey you know, reading is important, and it's not just our parents giving us that message. It's the whole town.

After the success of the first Paint the Town Read the P&C saw that there's a definite need for it to be held annually. So it is our annual event. Each year the kids, the P&C, and the parents and teachers look forward to this.

Our theme for Paint the Town Read was inclusion this year and we were really excited about that, in that it was a way that we could show the children that no matter what their obstacles or barriers, they can still achieve success in whatever they choose to do.

My name's Jane Filan and I'm a teacher here at Mitchell State School, and as part of our focus, our ongoing focus here for school improvement is reading, and within our reading spectrum we like to involve parents and community and engage them as much as we can.

One of the initiatives that we started 10 years ago and is still going stronger and better every year is Paint the Town Read. This year's Paint the Town Read was all about inclusion. Our guest author this year was a gentleman by the name of Lorin Nicholson. Lorin is legally blind. He is an adventurer. He's a musician. He's an author.

He came to our school to share his journey with us of how he was included at school. How he never gave up. He always felt that he had a purpose and a goal in life. So he came to our school and shared his journey with us and with the community.

Our theme was climb your own mountain, because that's Lorin's theme. So all of the shop windows down the main street of Mitchell they did their own quote and designed their window around that and we had a little competition to see who had the best window.

Lorin really just inspired the children this year to be who they can be, to really achieve their goals and not to let a disability or a learning problem get in their way. That you can really go on and achieve lots of things if you put your mind to it.