



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Inverell High School to become a “Boys Education Lighthouse School”**

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor has welcomed the announcement by the Federal Minister for Education that Inverell High School has been successful in getting funding under the “Boys Education Lighthouse Schools” Program.

“During the week, I was notified by the Minister for Education, the Hon Brendan Nelson that the Inverell High School has been successful in being included in the Australian Government’s “Boys Education Lighthouse Schools” Program and as a result will receive up to \$100,000 in funding.

In a nutshell, the “Boys Education Lighthouse Schools” (BELS) Program is to address the needs of boys and is in response to the growing concern that boys are significantly underperforming in key educational areas. Research is showing that boys are lagging behind girls in operational literacy right across the school curriculum from early primary to secondary school.

The BELS program is designed to change this and I congratulate Inverell High on their being included in the program and thank and recognise the contribution of the Federal Government,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor said that the program was very competitive.

“Inverell High was selected from over 800 applications from schools across Australia wanting to be involved in the program and the Minister has, as I do, commend them for this significant achievement.

They were included in an additional 13 schools added to the BELS initiative Stage 2 bringing the total number of schools now involved in the program to 51.

To be successful in being involved in this program is a real feather in the cap of Inverell High School and I wish them every success in its implementation to achieve good outcomes for the boys of the school,” Mr Windsor said.

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