



# NEWS RELEASE

## Premier of New South Wales

### FOUR NSW SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN MICROSOFT PARTNER'S GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY FORUM

Tuesday, 16 November 2010

Premier Kristina Keneally last night announced four NSW schools will participate in the 2011 Microsoft Partners in Learning Innovative Schools Initiative – a program to allow these schools to use new Microsoft technologies before they are released around the world.

NSW schools selected to participate in the 2011 forum are:

- Albury Public School;
- Sydney Distance Education High School;
- Campbelltown Performing Arts High School; and
- Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College (Tumbi Umbi Campus).

The Premier made the announcement at an awards ceremony to congratulate schools taking part in the 2010 program – which was the first year Microsoft's \$500 million global initiative was held in Australia.

**The program gives innovative schools from around the country the opportunity to come together to share and showcase their world-class digital teaching practices in a series of forums.**

**Participating schools also receive access to early pilots of Microsoft programs before they are released and additional eLearning training for teachers and principals.**

In 2010, 23 schools from across the country were selected to take part, including Lakelands Public School, Cromer Campus High School, Miller Technology High School and Callaghan College (Wallsend Campus) in NSW.

"The Innovative Schools Forum connects schools with leading experts in the information technology sector to look at how to best use new technologies in the classroom," Ms Keneally said.

"We've already seen classrooms transformed into digital learning spaces thanks to the 146,000 laptops NSW has rolled out through the Digital Education Revolution, and this program allows educators to share ideas on how to utilise this technology in the classroom."

Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, David Harris said, "This program will give students the unique opportunity to use new Microsoft technologies before they are released around the world.

"Students and staff at the Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College (Tumbi Umbi Campus) will now be able to work on ways to better use technology in the classroom and will share their new skills with surrounding schools."

Member for Camden, Geoff Corrigan said, "The Innovative Schools Forum will allow teachers and students to come together and work on new teaching methods with other innovative schools from around the country."

“Students are already benefiting from the laptops the NSW Government has rolled out across the State and this will further enhance opportunities for digital learning in NSW public schools.”

Microsoft Australia Academic Programs Manager, Jane Mackarell said, “Microsoft sees Australia as world class when it comes to giving its children the tools and knowledge to succeed in a highly connected and globalised economy.”

“This is a great opportunity for Australia to play a global leadership role in digital education and our Innovative Schools program enables Australia’s top schools and teachers to come together and demonstrate how the classroom of the future is becoming a reality.”

### **Participating schools for 2011:**

#### ***New South Wales***

Albury Public School

Sydney Distance Education High School

Campbelltown Performing Arts High School

Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College (Tumbi Umbi Campus)

#### ***Western Australia***

Esperance Primary School

Hamilton Senior High School

Tom Price Primary School

#### ***Australian Capital Territory***

Erindale College

#### ***Northern Territory***

Rosebury Middle School

#### ***Queensland***

Kirwan State High School

Coomera Springs State School

Stanthorpe State School

#### ***South Australia***

Lockleys North Primary School

Charles Campbell Secondary School

#### ***Tasmania***

Princess St Primary School

Campbell St Primary School

#### ***Victoria***

Somerville State School

Buckley Park State School

Mooroolbark College

Belmont High School