



# Media Release

**Geoff Howard MLA, Member for Ballarat East**

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Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2008

## **\$181,849 FOR TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT AT MOUNT CLEAR COLLEGE AND BALLARAT SECONDARY COLLEGE**

Mount Clear College will receive \$91,713 and Ballarat Secondary College will receive \$90,136 of Brumby Government grants to upgrade their technical equipment, Geoff Howard MP Member for Ballarat East said.

“These grants are part of the Brumby Government’s commitment to providing Victorian students with the facilities they need for a 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum.”

Schools can purchase, hire, refurbish or maintain technical equipment used in Technology Studies, Vocational and Education Training in Schools (VET) or similar programs.

This includes items such as computer aided drafting and manufacturing equipment and software, machining equipment, digital lathes and automotive and engineering equipment.

“Investment in vocational and technical education is increasingly important because it helps develop a skilled workforce and keeps young people involved in the education system,” Geoff said.

Victoria leads all other states in school retention to the completion of Year 12 or its equivalent, with 86.1% of young people retained in our education and training system last year.

This new funding will help achieve the Government’s target of 90% of young people completing Year 12 or its equivalent by 2010.