

2011 Westvic Staffing Solutions Foundation Progress Report – October 2011

1. Cobden Technical School

Funding amount - \$4763.00

*Continued and improved delivery of Certificate 2 in Building and Construction (Carpentry) at Cobden Technical School
No report submitted as at 14/11/11.*

2. Monivae College

Funding amount - \$2950.00

Improve the school's capability for delivery of vocational education in agriculture, horticulture and livestock management

VET/VCAL Coordinator, Murray Silver, reported that the college's project is now at completion. An all-weather path from the college buildings to the agriculture plot is complete, orchard trees have been planted, treated pine sleeper garden plots are planted out with vegetable crops, irrigation has been established, and the paddock has been secured with swinging gates on all entry/exit points. Both VCAL students and staff have gained great satisfaction from setting up the learning area with permanent fixtures that will last for an extended period. Future VCAL 'work-related skills' projects are being planned to further enhance the agriculture plot. Murray comments that the project has been a great success, with the agriculture plot now an attractive and inviting setting and a productive and effective resource for teachers to use in their classes.



Vegetable garden plots

3. Mortlake College

Funding amount - \$3761.55

Upgrade equipment in Mortlake College's woodwork and metalwork areas in the Technology department

The upgrade of equipment in the Technology department has been completed and the full funding amount has been spent. Woodwork teacher Andrew Bennett commented that both students and staff have enjoyed using the equipment. Junior woodwork classes have been able to complete minor projects with satisfaction, and senior Design and Technology students have completed the year with a range of projects which reflect the equipment used.

4. MRC Camperdown

Funding amount - \$2747.64

Fully equipped tool box for MRC staff and Certificate 2 in Building and Construction students to take out to community based project work sites

The school purchased the toolbox and associated tools late last year to enable students in 2011 to have a full year's use. The Certificate II in Building and Construction course continues to be popular with the school's year 10 and 11 boys, a cohort that principal Darren Egberts acknowledges is difficult to engage through traditional classroom studies. The capacity to move offsite using the toolbox has enabled these students to have hands-on experience in the school and wider community. When working on these projects the students are engaged, self-motivated, able to work cooperatively, develop and demonstrate leadership skills, and promote the college and the building and construction certificate amongst those whom they are working with and for. Projects that the toolbox has been used for include the construction of a siding and shelter shed at Naroghid on the Camperdown-Timboon rail trail, construction of a children's cubby house, building improvements at the local parish presbytery, construction of new school outdoor furniture and pathways, and construction of made-to-order indoor and outdoor furniture for staff.

5. Timboon P-12 School

Funding amount - \$5040.00

Purchase of equipment for Timboon P-12 School's recently upgraded industrial standard Home Economics centre

Timboon P-12 School's home economics department was able to update the equipment for the school's new industrial kitchen. They purchased basic equipment as well as some specialised equipment for the Hospitality class and the Year 12 Food Technology class, allowing students to use the correct equipment for tasks completed as part of their studies and try new and more challenging recipes. The equipment purchases have also ensured that the equipment is safe and hygienic and meeting industry standards. The school's yearbook has a page devoted to the home economics centre and acknowledges the generosity of Westvic.

6. Warrnambool College

Funding amount - \$10,000.00

Initial development phase of an Aquaponics Centre for use by Warrnambool College in science subjects

The aquaponics project is nearing completion with the greenhouse constructed, plumbing and connection of water in place, garden beds ready for plants and shelter for the fish ponds. Construction of the fencing will commence late 2011 and the greenhouse plastic for the roof and pumps will be put in place early in the first term of 2012. To date the year 11 VCAL students on the aquaponics system development team have benefitted the most from the project, gaining greater understanding of the design and construction process, and the importance of sustainable living and its implementation into the wider community. As the project continues to move to completion there will be a greater school and community involvement, with year 10 sustainability and environment students, food technology students, Deakin University and Wannon Water potentially being involved in various ways.

7. Glenelg and Southern Grampians LLEN

Funding amount - \$9943.00

Provision of IT and training resource requirements for the Portland Re-engagement program being established in 2011

The Portland Re-engagement program was established in February 2011 with 26 young people enrolled. The program has been operating since that time, with current student numbers at 35. Student attendance rates have significantly improved, and a majority of students have achieved their foundation certificate for all school based studies. Anne Murphy, GSGLLEN Executive Officer, notes that students have truly engaged with the program. Many of this year's students have indicated their willingness to continue with education in the program in 2012, or have secured work or apprenticeships.