

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL STEM AWARDS

Statement by Minister for Science

MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean — Minister for Science) [12.12 pm]: I rise to inform the house that yesterday the Governor's School STEM Award winners were announced, and awards were taken home by regional and city Western Australian schools. The awards support the state government's STEM skills strategy "Future jobs, future skills", which aims to build a globally competitive and innovative workforce. The McGowan government is committed to increasing STEM participation to ensure that our state and Western Australian kids have the skills they need for the job opportunities of the future.

Now in their fifth year, the Governor's School STEM Awards recognise excellence in delivering an innovative, engaging and whole-of-school approach to science, technology, engineering and maths education. This year, four schools, including one from the Pilbara, were celebrated at the 2019 Governor's School STEM Awards for their leadership and achievements in creating a positive school culture in science, technology, engineering and maths. Brookman Primary School and Melville Senior High School won Leadership Excellence awards, while Pannawonica Primary School and Hale School took home Meritorious Leadership awards—the runner-up prize. Brookman Primary was recognised for integrating STEM into school planning and classroom practice, as well as providing mentorship to other schools to do the same. Brookman Primary School was a winner last year and a runner-up in 2017. Melville Senior High School's achievements include engaging industry and the local community to develop innovative programs that increase student participation in and enthusiasm for STEM.

Now in their fifth year, the awards recognise high-quality school leadership and teaching in STEM disciplines, which help students to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Congratulations to all the winners, runners-up and finalists in this year's awards.