

Schools' \$66m boost just out of this world

By CHRIS RUSSELL EDUCATION REPORTER

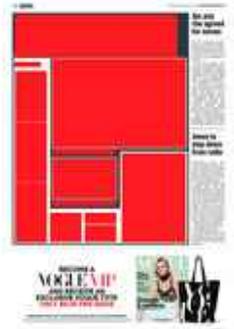
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CHRIS RUSSELL
EDUCATION REPORTER

UPGRADES to schools – including a new planetarium – have been revealed in a \$66 million investment by the State Government.

The planetarium, only the second in South Australia, will be installed at Hamilton Secondary College, the state's leading space studies school.

Hamilton also will gain a 150-seat theatre, with performing arts centres also set out for John Pirie and Wirreanda secondary schools in the capital works program.

"We are pleased to be re-

vealing these designs to families across SA, whom I am sure will closely monitor the progress of construction as these concepts come to life," Education Minister John Gardner said.

"Construction on these sites will begin in the coming months, creating local jobs and contributing to the massive boost to our economy that our education capital works program will bring to the state, at a time when these jobs are so sorely needed."

Mr Gardner said the \$9 million investment in Hamilton college would enhance its focus on science, technology,

engineering and mathematics, "further positioning Hamilton as a school of choice for students interested in pursuing a career in the space industry". UniSA runs SA's only other planetarium, at its Mawson Lakes campus.

John Pirie Secondary School principal Roger Nottage said the \$10 million for the Port Pirie school "will cap off the reinvigoration of the site and public education".

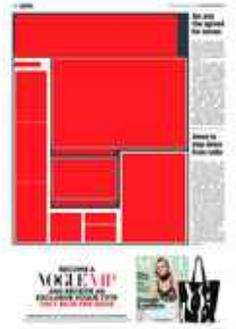
It follows earlier investment of about the same amount in recent years.

The project includes two new buildings to house Year 7 and 8 students in a junior sec-

ondary wing and facilities to support personalised, alternative learning programs so students can gain skills in areas such as building construction.

Port Pirie's original power supply building, which has most recently been used as a gym, then dance studio, will be refurbished as a 150-seat theatre. "We're going to call it the Powerhouse Performing Arts Centre," Mr Nottage said.

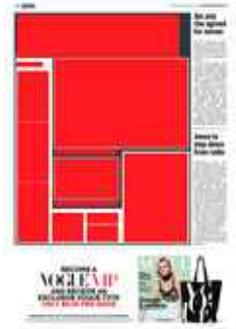
"The landscaping will honour the heritage with some implements from the original – and there's an industrial feel in the design of an extension of the music suite."



SPACE CADETS: An impression of the Hamilton Secondary College planetarium. Picture: EDUCATION DEPT.



GOING UP: Greenwith Primary School's upgrade includes a new two-storey building.



CAMPUS PROJECTS

Aldinga Beach B-7 School \$5 million

Permanent modular building; external decking; covered outdoor learning area; replace toilets.

Ardtornish Primary School \$5 million

Permanent modular building.

Christies Beach High School \$8 million

Redevelop three buildings; upgrade front of school; seismic upgrade to a building, including steel bracing; extra staff carparks and external lighting.

Elizabeth North Primary School \$5 million

Two permanent modular buildings.

Greenwith Primary School \$5 million

Two-storey permanent modular facility.

Hamilton Secondary College \$9 million

Planetarium; performing arts building; refurbish two

buildings; heating, insulation, airconditioning and acoustic upgrades; improve frontage facing Marion Rd.

John Pirie Secondary School \$10 million

Two buildings for junior secondary; powerhouse performing arts centre.

Kingston Community School \$4 million

Two permanent modular buildings - one for general purposes, one for food technology.

Moonta Area School \$4m:

Permanent modular hubs - one for Year 12, one for services including canteen.

Wirreanda Secondary School \$11 million

Modular buildings to create 16 learning areas; refurbish technical studies, home economics and art and design classrooms; repurpose gym as performing arts centre; special class for Year 7s.