



## **STATEMENT FROM THE MEMBER FOR RANKIN, CRAIG EMERSON**

### **Rochedale South State School**

31 August 2011

I have been requested at very short notice to represent the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, at a meeting convened in Paris on Thursday by French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, the British Prime Minister, David Cameron and the United States Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton in relation to the removal of the Gaddafi regime in Libya. The meeting is about the reconstruction of Libya under the National Transition Council.

This is a significant world event and, since Australia took a lead in moves to establish a non-fly zone over Libya to limit Gaddafi aerial attacks on the rebel forces, it is important that Australia attend the meeting.

This has unfortunately meant that I am unable to attend the much-awaited opening of the new multi-purpose hall at Rochedale South State School.

Principal Michelle Butler, along with staff, P&C, parents, project managers and tradespeople have worked together to deliver this new facility.

I know that the students of Rochedale South Primary are the big winners and are very proud of their new hall. The new facility has provided a modern and fun new learning area that I know is already being used by both the school and the community.

Other winners have been the workers from the building industry. While the economy faced tough times during the Global Financial Crisis, the building of this new hall provided employment for many local workers.

I am very proud that I have been able to be associated with this wonderful new facility and although I cannot open them personally I continue to give my strong support to the students and staff at Rochedale South Primary School.