



Amanda Rishworth MP

Member for Kingston

MEDIA RELEASE

Key Community Role Models Successfully Inspire Local Students To Be Leaders

Over 135 local students voted the Federal Member for Kingston, Amanda Rishworth's, first Southern Adelaide Leadership forum a success.

Ms Rishworth congratulated all year six and seven students and guest speakers who participated on the day for making the leadership forum an interactive and informative learning experience.

"Students displayed a broad range of creative ideas on how they can be leaders both at school and in their community," Ms Rishworth said.

The three discussion themes of leadership, community service and representation were discussed in detail by South Australian key community figures, including:

- Katrina Webb – Successful Athlete at Atlanta, Sydney and Athens Paralympic games
- Brenton Ragless – Weekday weather presenter for Nine News
- Gavin Wanganeen – Former Port Power Captain
- Jason Torney – Southern Adelaide Football Club Captain
- Daniel Harris – Redbacks Batsman

Maddi Collins, a year 7 Reynella Primary School student, simply summed the day up as, real good fun.

"Having guest speakers from different backgrounds provided a great opportunity for students to hear how we can be leaders in our community," Maddi said.

"The SRC leadership forum helped me realise that you don't have to be popular to be a leader – anyone can be a leader as long as you do the right thing," Maddi said.

The Morphett Vale West School Counsellor, Ms Jill Panton, believes the leadership forum provided an invaluable experience for students, giving them the confidence to have a voice about issues that are important to them.

“The leadership forum provided many positive learning skills for students participating on the day from public speaking to team building,” Ms Panton said.

“Students gained a better understanding of how members of parliament, football players and weather presenters can give back to the community through their high profile positions.”

The day also provided many opportunities for students to interact and build their social networks with other school leaders through group activities.

“Morphett Vale West students were so enthused with the set group activities that we have decided to incorporate the leadership program as a classroom exercise, Ms Panton said.

Ms Rishworth believes students left feeling they were leaders in their own right.

“Students walked away with a much better understanding of how they can be leaders in their community, not just as SRC representatives at their school, Ms Rishworth said.