

# Partnership blossoms

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To the future: Timboon P-12 School students Maddi Clarke, Charlotte Plozza and Zara Watt, with school STEM co-ordinator Anne Frazer, principal Sean Fitzpatrick and Lochard Energy's Wayne Dyett celebrate news of a partnership.

TIMBOON P-12 School and Lochard Energy have joined forces in a five year partnership to benefit students.

Announced recently, Lochard Energy has agreed to fund \$10,000 per year for five years towards the school's focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

School STEM co-ordinator Anne Frazer said she was "excited" to announce the ongoing partnership.

"With a strong focus from Government and industry on the need for students to gain skills in these areas, the partnership with Lochard Energy will provide benefit to our students over the coming years," she said.

"Lochard has committed to provide a grant of \$10,000 a year for the next five years, which will be used to resource STEM activities, support students – with a particular focus on girls – to attend STEM workshops and camps, and provide end of year STEM awards for both primary and secondary students.

"Initially the resource funding will be used to set up a Maker Space for secondary students and an outdoor Tinkering Studio in the new primary school precinct (once the building program is complete)."

Ms Frazer said staff believed the resourcing would evolve as ideas generate from both students and teachers.

"We are excited with this new partnership, which is not only supported with the monetary grant, but includes the offer of hands on expertise from staff and continues the link that began with work experience placement of senior students," she said.

Lochard Energy services manager Wayne Dyett was also enthusiastic about the partnership.

"I think it's (the partnership) a good thing to be doing, it's not only benefiting the school, but the people we employ as well," he said.

"There will be other opportunities as well (to form partnerships with the school)."

Mr Dyett spoke highly of Lochard Energy and engineering as a career.

He encouraged students to make the most of the STEM classes and opportunities available.