

	SEATH HOLSWICH MP STATE MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS
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SPEECH

27th July 2012

PINE RIVERS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ASSEMBLY

It is an honour to be here today and to be able to present awards to some of the highest achievers from Pine Rivers State High from Semester 1, 2012.

Congratulations to each and every one of the students receiving awards today. These awards are recognition of the hard work that you've put into your school experience and you thoroughly deserve the recognition you have received today.

As each of you launches into the second half of 2012, I just want to share a couple of my favourite quotes with you today.

The first was penned by Australian surgeon and war hero, Edward (Weary) Dunlop. He said: "It is only when you are at full stretch that you can reach your full potential."

I would encourage each and every one of you to commit yourselves to giving this semester your full effort. If you think you know where your limits are, push yourself beyond them. When you feel like you've put all your effort into a task, give it just that little bit more. The more you stretch yourself, the more you challenge yourself, the more your capacity to perform well will increase.

Don't get to the end of this semester and be left wishing you'd done more. Stretch yourself and challenge yourself with your school work, your sports, your music, your community service this semester and you'll see results that you never thought possible.

The second quote I'd like to share is somewhat similar to the first: "Only those who attempt the absurd are capable of achieving the impossible."

If you have a dream, go after it. If people are telling you it can't be done, prove them wrong. If people are telling you that you're not good enough to achieve what you're trying to achieve, prove them wrong.

Just because you've never achieved a certain grade on an assignment or an exam before, doesn't mean it can't happen this semester.

Dream big, aim high and then work hard to achieve your goals this semester. Anyone who has achieved anything significant in their lives hasn't waited for other people to tell them what to do, they've motivated themselves and pushed themselves beyond what most people consider normal and the results when someone does that are generally amazing.

So my encouragement to every one of you this semester is to set big goals, challenge yourself to achieve more than you've ever achieved before and then work ridiculously hard to make it happen.

Congratulations again to today's award winners and also to all of the teachers, support staff and parents who provide such wonderful support to your students.