



Speech by

DESLEY SCOTT

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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WOODRIDGE STATE HIGH SCHOOL, AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

Mrs DESLEY SCOTT (Woodridge—ALP) (6.54 p.m.): Extraordinary things are happening at Woodridge High and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the entire school community for recently being one of the five Queensland schools to attain the top award in the awards for excellence. I was very privileged to attend the gala presentation at the Brisbane Convention Centre along with principal Helen Jamieson, curriculum adviser Kim Slater and a number of teaching staff. It was a wonderful experience and reward for the tremendous effort which I know has been expended to gain better outcomes for all students.

Woodridge is a community on the move, and nowhere is that more evident than at Woodridge High. In 1999, a delegation from Woodridge High visited Salisbury Enterprise School in South Australia and came back with a glowing report, and so the initiative Woodridge the Enterprise School was born. The philosophy is to produce independent lifelong learners who will become self-confident adults ready to take their place in a changing world. The enterprise focus pervades every avenue of the curriculum in all subjects at all levels and so influences the learning of every student. The results to date are just fantastic.

A practical focus has been applied to subjects, and students have really responded, now being able to relate their learning experience to practical living and a confidence in their ability to take their place in our modern world. A number of projects and examples are worthy of note. Year 10 health sports science took on the enterprise task of organising and running round robins at our local primary schools and running training clinics. I know my primary schools have greatly benefited from this project and new enthusiasm has been engendered in the high school with a dramatic increase in participation and achievement.

The practical art class took on the assignment to design and paint an Australian themed mural at the entrance to the school. The result is a 25-metre by two-metre mural that is really stunning. Business students created and marketed coaster-paperweights to the local community. Another group ran discos and operated a recording studio, doing a number of CDs of school bands. Yet other business enterprises designed and produced postcards of Logan City which our local council plans to sell. Then there was our Clicky Attitudes company who produced and marketed clocks and won the Grainco regional company award. However, the school musical involved an across-curriculum effort.

The english communications class was responsible for promotion, ticketing, program, the gala opening, et cetera. The practical art class designed and produced the props and sets. Home ec. was responsible for catering. The marvellous performers, musicians, stage hands and all involved treated us to an amazing night of entertainment. There is so much more to the story of what is happening at Woodridge High. I applaud the entire school administration, teachers and staff and, of course, the wonderful diverse student body who inspire me so much. Well done to all.