



Speech By  
**Scott Stewart**


**MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Townsville State High School, Valedictory**

 **Mr STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (8.53 pm): I rise this evening in this adjournment debate to present an excerpt from the valedictory speech given by the Townsville State High School captains, Remy Miller and Lachlan Waters. Many members of the House speak very fondly and proudly about the schools in their electorates, and rightly so. Tonight's excerpt is advice from young people given to young people about their school—

Whether you are academically inclined or love music and sport, Town High has been able to provide for the various amount of talent our fellow students produce. The atmosphere and culture of our school is like no other. The willingness of everyone within the school community to accept and help each other is something that I have really appreciated. For the school captains next year, here are a few things I can pass on. First, Mr Slater, our principal, is the boss around here, but he is also the most genuine and dedicated man. Work with him and the great team of deputies and you will see the large amounts of time they give to see this school excel. Secondly, this role will give you many opportunities to show your responsibility and leadership. Use these characteristics to be the best representatives of the school and great role models. School will be over sooner than you can imagine. If I could give any advice to you it would be this: do not take your schooling life for granted because believe me, it's one of the best experiences you'll ever have. To the graduating class of 2017, year 12 is right around the corner. It goes by in a flash and if you are not paying attention, you will miss it. So don't be afraid to try to experience something new, push yourself out of your comfort zone.

Finally to our amazing cohort, if there is something you should take from this speech it is to move forward with your life with enthusiastic hearts and a clear sense of wholeness. Even though school is hard work it is just the first step in a long and fulfilling life that will often throw up seemingly insurmountable barriers. By drawing from our shared experience and being willing to pull up your socks and make a difference, then the world's your oyster. Every one of you has the potential to amount to anything you dream of. Make change work for you and take the opportunities presented as they arise. Never let anything hold you back or stop from achieving your dreams. At the end of the day you are you and nothing can change that. Dream big, work hard and strive for a better future.