

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

Quirindi High School welcomes Member back to school

May 19 2004

Member for Tamworth Peter Draper went back to Quirindi High School on Tuesday to share memories of his schoolyard days and to speak about the career that followed.

Mr Draper was a student at Quirindi between 1969 and 1974 and was one of hundreds of past students nationwide to share their life stories with today's generation of students as part of National Back to School Day.

Mr Draper was delighted to be able to support the day that celebrates excellence in public education and encourages young people to achieve and succeed.

In a lighthearted address to students during assembly, Mr Draper recalled times spent in the principal's office, (not for tea and sandwiches), and memories of his English teacher Mrs McHatten, who instilled a love of books and reading.

He also impressed upon students not to base every hope on the Higher School Certificate as life offered countless opportunities beyond academic results to achieve career goals.

"Your journey may not be pre-determined by your HSC, there are always other opportunities and although it might take a little longer to reach your goal, you will get there," he said.

Mr Draper also presented 30 year Certificates of Service to Quirindi High School teachers Cedric Grayson, Peter Parnell and principal John Ayres and a 20 year Certificate of Service to Greg Marshall. Mr Geoff Willis was absent but will also receive a 30 year certificate.

Photo Caption: Left to Right, School Education Director Tamworth School Education Area Rob Lewis stand next to Quirindi High School teachers who received 20 and 30 Year Service Certificates including Greg Marshall, Cedric Grayson, Peter Parnwell and Member for Tamworth Peter Draper, Principal John Ayres. In front are school captains, Mia Jenkins, Tim Maybury, Matt Thompson and Belinda Gilchrist.

End Release

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