The HSC is once again upon us. The first two weeks have been successfully negotiated with students and staff happy with the examinations so far. I must take this opportunity to congratulate Year 12 2014 on the way they concluded their formal schooling. The last week of Term 3 was a fabulous celebration of the achievements and spirit of this fine group of young people. The fun days, organised by their year advisors Alana Keelan and James Lukeman, were exactly that - lots of fun for students and staff. The formal Year 12 assembly saw more than 900 people come together to celebrate the academic, sporting and cultural achievements of this group. Mayor Mathew Dickerson spoke about making a difference and taking chances when they came along. It was a wonderful day for all involved.

Even though the HSC has not yet concluded Dubbo College Senior Campus is already celebrating success in the 2014 HSC examinations. Amber Bunt and Kaiya Hannifey have both received nominations to “Callback” as a result of their HSC dance performances. It is a great achievement to receive two nominations and one that their dance teacher, Jessica Schulte and the whole Dubbo College community is very proud of. Congratulations to both girls and Ms Schulte.

Congratulations also need to go to the F1-In-Schools team. The F1-In-Schools competition is an international competition which culminates in world championships. The College team is made up of Kyle Munro, Elijah Stanger-Jones, Neil Motbey, Martin Blattman and Madelaine Fern and they will represent Western region in the State finals in Sydney in early November. If they succeed in Sydney they will be off to the national championships. Our “Chaos” racing team is a very dedicated and enthusiastic group of engineering students passionately led by their teacher, John Miller.

In the sporting arena congratulations must go to Harry van Dartel. Harry represented NSW in rugby league. He was part of the NSW Combined High School Rugby League team which successfully toured New Zealand in the last school holidays - an amazing achievement. As I write this report our senior boys’ cricket team is making the long haul to Broken Hill to play the second round of the CHS knockout competition – the Alan Davidson Shield.

The Careers team has been working tirelessly during the past month to ensure our students have access to early entry at university. It is a lengthy process but a very worthwhile one. So far this year 84 students have applied for early entry to universities throughout the State.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Ian Nebauer to Dubbo College. Ian has been appointed to the College as our new executive principal. Ian brings a wealth of experience to the position, having been principal at Gulargambone Central,
Coonamble High School and Callaghan College Jesmond Campus. He has spent the last six years as the State coordinator for the *Dare to Lead* Program, run by the Principals Australia Institute. We are looking forward to working together to take the College to new levels.

Both Year 11 and Year 12 are looking forward to significant events in the coming weeks. Year 11 will hold a formal assembly on Friday November 7 at 1:30 pm. Refreshments will be available on our new deck outside the hospitality area. Year 12 will celebrate the end of examinations and the end of school at their formal on Saturday November 8. The function will be held at the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre and it will be a fabulous occasion.