

2018 AEL Graduation ESC-20

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Dare to dream, and you can achieve your goals because you hold the power of knowledge that has the power to change who you are and to accomplish what you may have thought was impossible.

If it wasn't for this the support of my family, my teacher, and friends, I would not be standing here right now. You need a good support system to help achieve your goals. Despite all the problems that you may encounter in life, if you are determined and have a great support system, you will succeed. I would like to end it off by saying a quote, "today is the first day of the rest of my life." Thank you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Graduates, this is a big step in your personal journey. Each of you are here for a reason tonight. For one, it might be the fulfillment of a personal goal. For another, it might be to set an example for a child or a sibling or a friend. For someone else, this might be a promise that you made to a parent. Whatever the driving motivation is, allow that same motivation to propel you through the next step in your journeys.

You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, and how you can still come out of it. Congratulations, and thank you.

This is not the end. It's just another chapter in your journey. So the one thing in life that none of us can control, you can't control the card you were dealt, you can't control the past, but I will tell you this, you certainly have some control over your future. Students, thank you. Thank you for sacrificing for those that are watching you. How do you spell love? I'm going to challenge you? Is love-- it's not spelled L-O-V-E. It's spelled T-I-M-E. Let's get our family and our loved ones our time. Congratulations, this is your time. Congratulations.

[APPLAUSE]

By taking this first step, you have taken ownership of your educational growth and continued development through what will be a life long learning experience.

Now officially congratulations to the class of 2018.

Congratulations to all our graduates.

[MUSIC PLAYING]