Surat State School Principal Justin Washington shows us what can be achieved through dedication and commitment.

“*It gave me an opportunity to make a valuable difference in the lives of young people*”

Why did you choose to get involved in RATEP?
It gave me the opportunity to study while remaining in my community. I wanted to set up a solid future for my family with my teaching degree.

How did higher education change your life?
It gave me an opportunity to make a valuable difference in the lives of young people and also gave me a career in education.

What have been the high points in your career so far?
Career highlights are: making a difference, working within the community where I studied and lived, receiving a permanent position at completion of study, getting a promotion to a teaching principal position and then a non-teaching principal position in a P-10 school, and being involved in school sport and Queensland school sport.

What were some of the positive aspects about studying through RATEP?
Being able to study within my community.

Advice to others thinking of participating in RATEP?
Look at the bigger picture and life after completion of your degree. Don’t give up, follow through.

What advice would you give to those thinking about it?
I highly recommend it to any person wanting to study within their community.

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