

Elon Musk's success story is one that keeps me going when I have doubts about what I am doing with my life. The things he has done in business and his passion for helping humanity is something that most people do not have. Some think entrepreneur types like him are only in it for the money but I think his track record shows that he is in it for the challenge.

Elon got his first taste of business when he was 12 when he created his own video game that he sold for \$500. He went to school for physics twice as an undergraduate then got his PhD in physics and also managed to squeeze an economics degree in there. That alone is a success story to me; I would be happy with 2 degrees. His first company, Zip2, sold for over \$300 million and was one of the first big deals in the new technology era that the internet helped create. His next company, which ended up becoming PayPal, was sold to eBay for \$1.5 billion. If all that wasn't enough he decided to take on the car industry and the space industry. He got involved with Tesla Motors and ended up putting most of his own money into the company to make sure it stayed afloat during its difficult beginnings. With Space X he is now helping NASA put supplies in space and hopes to send humans to Mars in the near future. He is also involved with solar city, which is a company that offers solar power systems for homes. Lastly he is trying to develop the Hyperloop transportation system that will be able to transport people at speeds of about 600 mph allowing people to commute to work in cities hundreds of miles away.

What I find successful about Elon Musk's story is that he has been able to take on the internet when it was still young and revolutionize the banking industry with PayPal then jump into completely different fields like the automotive industry and the space industry and have similar success. The banking industry in America hadn't changed much in 100 years but with the internet Elon saw an opportunity and he took it. The same with the automotive industry, gas powered cars have ruled the road for 100 years and not more and more people are driving electric cars. His jump to the automotive industry forced the old school manufacturers to create electric cars of their own to compete. The part that makes them extra successful is that even if Tesla Motors doesn't succeed as a company Elon still may get what he wanted which is a cleaner environment due to less gasoline powered cars.

I chose Elon Musk's story because I feel that if he can take on NASA and the big automotive companies out there and be successful then I can take on the challenges coming my way because I don't plan on taking on as much as he has. I would like to have my own business that will allow me to invest or even start up other businesses in other fields like Elon has done. One of the other aspects that applies so my journey is that he started off going to school for physics but he is known as a great entrepreneur. I see myself in a similar situation because I am in school for web design and development but my main goal is to run my own business. I think Elon didn't need to learn business in college because he was naturally good at it and I believe I am the same way.