

Valedictorian Speech

Good evening, teachers parents, students and friends, While making this speech, I thought of a great man. My idol Martin Luther King Jr. once said "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." That means, we should stand up for what we believe in and always voice our opinions. While at school, I have been given the chance to be the best I can be, whether its for the student council, presenting for a project or even talking to strangers.

Tonight, we look back at how we came to be grade 8's and how we became to be the role models to the younger grades. I remember when I first came to this school back in grade 1. I was scared, did not want to talk to anyone and everyone was taller than me. 7 years later, and nothing has changed. Just kidding, I'm taller than my mom. Hi mom! I remember all the great memories, like the time the Senators lost in the Stanley Cup playoffs. Wow, that was the best, right Mr. Aunger? I remember back in the primary grades when I would get excited every year about play day, where the grade 8's were kind and helped me with the events. I remember back in grade 3 when I had a water fight, got a cold, and was sick for 2 days. Wait, that was not that great. There was the time when we were all playing soccer in grade 4 and every 2 weeks, the soccer ball would get stuck on the roof. Then, we would call Mr. Trentadeau, to help us. It's funny how things never change. I remember when in grade 7, when our class was stuck on the stage, dealing with the music class trying to play "Twinkle, twinkle little star." It drove me insane, especially when they were actually playing "Mary had a little lamb". In the back of my mind, I was thinking about Silence of the Lambs. I remember in grade 5 when I was in Mrs. Doxtater's class, where I would do book reports every month, half of them being Harry Potter books. I remember during free time Kristine would teach me cool Filipino songs like Pamela 1, and Ocho ocho. I remember at masses we would sing joyful songs like children of the light, with all of us clapping on tune, with smiles on our faces. My favorite memory was when I learned how to ride a bike from the grade 8's especially from Christopher, Gerald, and Janella.

Tonight we look back at the accomplishments we achieved this school year as the ambassadors of St. Jean de Brebeuf. This year's Christmas concert was special for both of our grade 8 classrooms. Mr. Leckey's class had a funny rap that lifted our spirits. Mr. Aunger's class talked about how about children like us, can change the world. We showed that we can make a difference with the food drive this year. The Justice League and the Student Council worked together to lead the food drive. We provided over 1000 cans for the needy and I'm proud to be a part of the initiative. There was a lot of time and effort made by all of us, and it was worth it. Lake Saint George this year brought us all together, by participating in activities like working with the GPS systems and playing "Instincts for survival and playing games during the camp fire, making us a closer knit Brebeuf family.

Also tonight is the night where we are no longer children, we are representatives for our school, spreading the word of peace and voicing our opinions. No longer are we little children holding our parent's hand, no longer we will stand and do nothing when there is wrong in the world, and no longer we shall give up when the going gets tough, because we are the graduates of 2008. We are the future. I would like to thank Mr. Comper for leading the school, the teachers for guiding me through my academic

path, and my parents for being positive role models, loving me with tender care, helping with homework and driving me to school.

This school has changed me, and all of us. It made us realize the difference between right and wrong. It made us realize the value of free speech, the power in faith of God, and finally it made me realize how much I am going to miss this school.

Congratulations graduates of the class of 2008, I will end this speech with a quote by Dr. Seuss

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes
You can steer yourself
any direction you choose.

You won't lag behind, because you'll have the speed.
You'll pass the whole gang and you'll soon take the lead.
Wherever you fly, you'll be the best of the best.
Wherever you go, you will top all the rest.

Oh, the places you'll go! There is fun to be done!
There are points to be scored. there are games to be won.
And the magical things you can do with that ball
will make you the winning-est winner of all.
Fame! You'll be famous as famous can be,
with the whole wide world watching you win on TV.

And will you succeed?
Yes! You will, indeed!
(98 and 3 / 4 percent guaranteed.)

So...
be your name Buxbaum or Bixby or Bray
or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea,
you're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting.
So...get on your way!

Thank you, and congratulations graduates of 2008!!! Huzzah, and Go Leafs Go!

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