

Class of 2011 Valedictorian speech

Kieran Rose Marrisa Litak and Audrey Mechling

Kieran: *"How did it get so late so soon, It's night before it's afternoon, December is here before it's June, My goodness how the time has flown, How did it get so late so soon?"*

Although Dr. Seuss' intended audience was young children I don't think that I fully understood this poem's true meaning until this year. Not only this year, our Senior Year, but these past twelve years have flown by. Throughout these years so many different people have influenced our lives and have brought us to where we are today. There are so many people who have supported the three of us, along with our entire class, and we all have people to thank. First and foremost we would like to thank our families.

Audrey: Thank you Mom and Dad for always being there for me, and Mom, thank you for all of the fun you have let me have over the years. And thank you Harlan for getting in enough trouble for the both of us, I'm walking today for you.

Kieran: Thanks Brynn for being the best big sister ever, and helping me every step of the way. And thanks Mom for being a constant driving force in my life. Dad, thanks for all of the love and support that you have given me.

Marrisa: Mom and Dad, I love you, thanks for everything that you have done for me. I really appreciate you not kill-

ing me during this stressful year, even though I sometimes deserved it.

Kieran: And we want to thank all of our friends, especially you Table Friends (chest bump), for putting up with us this hectic year, we have all been a little crazy, but that's nothing compared to the crazy good times we have had together. Jess and Chrisica, you never fail to make us laugh, Hailee, you are a constant source of happiness for everyone, Sabrina, we are so glad to share the stage with you tonight. And one common thread for all of us is that we wouldn't be here without our teachers. All the way from Evergreen with Mrs. Meengs, through Lorna Byrne with Mrs. Gilbert, Sheehan, and Fox, to these past four years here at IV, our teachers have done everything they can to help us.

Marrisa: Señora Szijarto gracias, nos has enseñado mucho de ambas lenguas.

Kieran: Thank you Mrs. V and Mr. La-then for teaching me that the past has everything to do with the future.

Audrey: Mr. Bradley. Thank you for being you.

Kieran: And finally, we want to thank someone who is in a category all of her own, Casey.

Marrisa: You brighten my life!

Audrey: Casey, I can't count the number of fun times we have had together, whether it be the whole summer I spent by your pool in the seventh grade or two weeks ago when we went camping on

the beach. All of our favorite memories have you in them. We have all had so many good times together these past four years. I will never forget playing the orange game on field night for the first time with all of you guys freshman year, it seems like it was only a few days ago! I can't believe that tonight we are already graduating. I feel like we have become a family, and I will never forget you. More than anything that has happened, I am so glad to have shared all of this with the amazing Class of 2011. Prom, Basketball Playoff's, the Homecoming Game, all of this would have meant nothing without all of you by our sides. We loved spending this past Halloween with you guys, I will always remember those caveman outfits and the scary movie night we had with our table friends (chest bump Kiera). Mali, I loved starting the movie night tradition with you when we were both three, drinking pink lemonade through crazy straws. Because we have grown up together, we are more of a family than most high school classes that have only been together for four years. So many of us have been together since the very beginning, from the first days of kindergarten, all the way to now, our graduation. We have been there for each other through everything, the first dates, the break ups, the drama, the tests, the last minute study sessions, the bad times, but more importantly the good. We knew

from the first moment that we walked through these doors to begin our freshman year that this class was going to be something special.

Marrisa: And now as we are walking out of them as graduates, we know that we are. We have all accomplished so much in our time here and we all have something to be proud of today. We know that each person sitting here in front of us is capable of great things, and we can't wait to see you guys get out there and do them. There is still so much ahead of us, so much to see and do. I know the future can be scary, because it is the unknown, but time turns the unknown into the known, and the future into the past. We want to be able to look back and be happy with the path we have chosen and where it has led us. So let's make a pact as a class, to do our best in everything that we attempt,

Kieran: To try again after every failure

Audrey: And to live our lives to the fullest.

Marrisa: So as we walk across the stage today and take our diploma, let's remember that it is not only our diploma that we are grabbing, but our future as well. This day is to look back on the last twelve years of our education and our life up until this point, but more importantly it is for looking forward. Today, we are graduating!

All: Congratulations Class of 2011!

