

Hello, friends, family, faculty and other people that are here at this moment in time. I thank you for all coming here today to celebrate the class of 2021! The highschool experience helps define who we are. As classmates. Friends. And people. And in this experience, some of us have matured, we've become caring and functional adults. But, let's be honest, most of us have not. I mean, I still have a dolphin collection from elementary school in my room. That's not necessarily something you'd put down on a resume.

But there's nothing wrong with being immature, and not fully grown up. You don't need to know what you want to do or who you want to be. These next years in our lives are for us to explore who we are; what are our passions? Our motives? Our reason for being here. Right now, the world is at your fingertips. And you can make of it what you want to. But not, and I mean this, not without failure. Many of us, as mentioned previously, are somewhat astrayed. We're still figuring things out. And that's good. Now isn't the time to make hard and fast decisions. Its the time to make mistakes; move; travel; become punk rock for a little bit; change your major; change it again; and again; ultimately realize you don't like science; buy gas station sushi; throw up; fall in love, many times; change your mind, again and again, make mistakes and build from you're failure. And yes, this process may sound intimidating, no one ever enjoys defeat. But eventually, we will all need to take a leap, and we may not know where we'll come down. But I promise you, you will land on your feet. And those are the little baby steps we take, to help us improve and build.

I look out towards my peers, seeing these familiar faces that I have known and enjoyed for the past 4 years. With all the experiences we have gone through together, I know that this class will do great things. When we face adversity we will not shy away. We will not cower and be afraid. We will stand up to the world, and fight for our beliefs. We will be pushed over, knocked down, overseen. But I know, no matter how many times we fall, we will always get back up. And with this mentality, we can accomplish anything.

Once, I was taught by Mr Jason Lambert that one should never end an essay or speech on a quote, so I am going to end mine with *two* quotes. As the great Stehpeh Hawking once said "remember to look up at the stars, instead of down at your feet", I address this to my fellow classmates, because you are all destined for greatness. And the second quote comes from myself. Going into this new part of our lives, where we will have energy and confidence, but little experience, I suggest to you: "minimum skill, maximum send". Thank you.

