COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

FOR

LARRY SPRYWA

Hello everyone and greetings to all of our graduates, friends, family, staff and faculty of All Saints Central High School. (**If there are any specific individuals you would like to acknowledge, do that here**). I want to extend a special thanks to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Today is a special day for all of us, as you, our graduates, complete an essential part of your life’s education, and I can really say, “I knew you when!” Yes I’ve watched as all of you have grown and blossomed, learned and acquired a greater understanding of education, faith and the world around you from the time you were just 6th graders. Here we are, 6 years later. You’ve each lived 50% more of your lives…. for all of you math geniuses-please double-check that! … And you’ve grown into wonderful young adults. Each of you is about to inherit your piece of the future and I am proud to have been a part of your educational development. Of course, having known you all for so long, I **DO** have stories… (**Tell one or 2 anecdotes here**). I remember the time\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. And who can ever forget when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? It’s moments like these that make my job so special!

You’ve all spent the past 6 years, since leaving my class, in pursuit of the education and religious understanding essential in navigating the rest of your lives. Today each one of you stands on the threshold of adulthood. High school graduation is a major passage in life and we are all so proud of your individual and group achievements (**If there is any student deserving special distinction, name it here**). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

His Holiness Pope Paul VI said, "The Catholic school's proper function is to create for the school community a special atmosphere animated by the Gospel spirit of freedom and charity, to help youth grow according to the new creatures they were made through baptism as they develop their own personalities, and finally to order the whole of human culture to the news of salvation so that the knowledge the students gradually acquire of the world, life and man is illumined by faith." To all of this year’s graduates, you have had a special opportunity to be a part of the nurturing and supportive atmosphere of All Saints Central High School. You’re about to be turned out into the “real world,” but keep this thought with you at all times: You will always be a part of this community. You are a part of the rich history of All Saints and as you go on to the next phases of your lives, whether it is college or the work world, remember the guidance and education you earned while attending this school. Remember the teachers-like me, of course… who taught and mentored you and cared about your achievements and challenges. Your world is about to expand as you might never have expected, but know that thanks to the education and religious support you received here, you are prepared to inherit the next phase of your lives. Each class I teach has a profound effect on me as a mentor and I want you all to know that I have learned from you as you have been taught by me. I hope that each of you…or at least **some** of you… were as inspired by me as I am of you. I look forward to following your growth and cheering at the news of your accomplishments. Remember that not only do you need to do well, you need to do **good**. On behalf of the staff and faculty, we wish all of you the very best in all you seek to accomplish in your future. Keep your mind alert, your heart open to God, continue to learn and remember that education, respect and faith will serve you well, no matter what path you choose in life.

Congratulations!