**14437, Lisa Barnett**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to all our teachers, teaching assistants and our principals for daring to come out tonight. Thank you so much for being here with us. We are here tonight to celebrate and show our appreciation for our teachers and teacher assistants for all the hard work they do during the school year. Boy, I don’t know who thought of our theme for this year, Disco Fever, but we need to make sure they don’t choose any more of our themes. I mean, seriously, Disco fever? What comes to my mind is loud, driving music and wild clothes to wear. Other memories of Disco Fever I have are John Travolta and dancing the night away. I guess someone was in the mood for some nostalgia.

Well, back to our reason for being here. Teacher assistants are certainly our unsung heroes. They work silently behind the scenes helping our students complete their projects and assignments. Their dedication to themselves and to our students is obvious in the quality of the work they do along with their consistent performance. They also work side by side with our teachers making sure they have everything they need to teach every day. They truly make a difference in the lives of our students and our teachers with all that they do each day.

We also want to express our appreciation for our teachers. I think we have the best staff of teachers in the area and I believe our families would agree. They come in to school each day, prepared to teach their lessons. But, they also take advantage of events throughout the day to teach life lessons along the way. These teachers, with the combination of their skill and their dedication are moving our schools, and along with them, the students to greater heights day after day.

This year our students have excelled in their school work. They have ended the year with their increase in achievements measurable from last year. Ladies and Gentlemen our students are why we come in every day. Our goal is not to merely teach them how to pass assessments, our goal is to teach them how to put the lessons they learn into their everyday life. They are better prepared today than they were at the beginning of the school year for the things life will require of them. And every year when they move up to the next grade level, they become better prepared for the new lessons they must learn.

Now that this school year is over our teachers and teacher assistants can celebrate the accomplishments they have made this year with our students and take the summer off to rest, relax and recharge their batteries so they can return next year and take on the challenge of a new group of students.

Thank you teachers and teacher assistants. Your contribution to our school and our students is greatly appreciated.