Good Evening Class of 2010! Today, we have achieved a milestone. We are beginning the new decade as 526 very capable, graduating Seniors, ready to move on to the next chapter in our lives.

As we reflect back on these past years, we are grateful for and know we would not be here today without our support systems – our parents and extended family, community organizations, churches, coaches AND the incredible teachers and staff at Basha High School.

It is not surprising that Basha High School was recognized in 2010 as one of the few A+ high schools throughout the State of Arizona. What an honor to have our school serve as a model of educational excellence.

Although we might have complained a little along the way, we do appreciate how our teachers pushed and challenged us beyond what we thought we were capable of doing - especially when senioritis kicked it. Not only did our teachers enrich our minds with indispensible, scholarly knowledge, many of them imparted valuable wisdom and guidance that we will continue to live by. Our very own Mr. Strom tells us:

''Measure your life in the un-measurables; like love, charity, hope, faith, and kindness. Those are the things that make life worth living.''

Outside the classroom, our the class of 2010 has been part of many successful Basha High programs led by very committed teachers, directors, advisors and coaches. Some noteworthy feats include:

- Providing items for relief efforts in Haiti

- Raising funds to support over 1 million polio vaccinations for the March of Dimes.

- An amazing Cheer Team that has been Arizona State Champions for the past two consecutive years

- Our girls softball team has won two state titles in the past two years

- We have the top Winter Drum Line in the state and last year they were named World Champs.

We will all have great memories of favorite classes or teachers, clubs, sporting events, and social activities. How can we not forget Mr. BHS dancing to lady Gaga songs.

The class of 2010 is very proud to be a part of and to have contributed to the outstanding reputation of this great institution.

But we will not rest on our laurels. We’re all getting ready to head out in different directions as we embark upon our journey into life. Look ahead at all the amazing opportunities we have been given. Lets not just stand back, embrace it and take in all life has to offer. Soon we will all be gaining knowledge in colleges, Serving our country in the military or serving others in the workforce all over the world. As we continue to discover and develop our individual gifts, let’s use them to “give back” and do our part in making the world a better place.

As writer Nathaniel Hawthorne said:

“Every individual has a place to fill in the world, and is important, whether he chooses to be so or not.”

We have a lot of options and decisions to make once we graduate. We my fellow graduates, have the ability to do good and change the world, all we need to do it try. We need to continually challenge and commit ourselves to whatever we do. We have already figured out that if we can take things one step at a time and break our challenges down into smaller goals, we can get there; we can make a difference.

Each one of YOU has a spectacular role to fill in this life, a role in which no one can do but YOU. So take that challenge to the highest level.

Graduates, remember the words of wisdom given to us at our senior assembly by motivational speaker, Mark Scharenbroich, “Stop Counting Crayons, Just Draw Pictures.” Don’t worry that you only have 5 jumbo crayons when the person next to you has the big Crayola pack with the 500 colors, sharpener and color wheel. We don’t need to compare ourselves to others. We need to forge our own lives. Don’t compromise your personality, dreams and goals. Find something you’re passionate about and do it!

Now graduates – it is time. Will you please join me in moving your tassel from the left to the right. Congratulations Basha Bears Class of 2010! We did IT!!!! We are now officially graduated!!!!!!!