

Top academic students give graduation addresses

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

Thursday, 16 May 2013 14:08 - Last Updated Thursday, 16 May 2013 14:16



MORGAN KOWALEWSKI AND MADDY COSTELLO



KAYLEE BEYEA

AMANDA LARSON

GHS graduation was Sunday

Kaylee Beyea Opening/Welcome Speech

On behalf of the Class of 2013, I would like to welcome you to our graduation.

I want to wish all the mothers here a very happy Mother's Day.

Now, please join me in an attitude of prayer, "Dear Lord, we thank you for this day and for everyone here that has helped us get where we are today. I ask that you are in our hearts as we go about this celebration and continue to bless us throughout our lives. In Jesus name, amen."

This year, the senior class chose "I Was Here" by Lady Antebellum to be our class song. The chorus says, "I wanna do something that matters. Say something different, something that sets the whole world on its ear. I wanna do something better with the time I've been given and I want to try to touch a few hearts in this life." This chorus fits our class well.

Our class has big plans for our future: 90% of us are going to a college of some type; 5% are entering the armed forces; and 5% are going into the work force.

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Out of the 90% going to college: seven people will become educators; nine will become medical professionals; four will study fields related to government; and six plan to graduate with degrees in welding and mechanics—just to name a few.

Besides college plans, many students are going to impact people's lives all over the world. Whether its being a missionary in Africa or working for Tom's Show Company, the Class of 2013 will leave its mark.

Class of 2013—let's do this!

Maddy Costello & Morgan Kowalewski

Senior Address

Morgan: Hello,

Maddy: we

Morgan: would

Maddy: like

Morgan: to

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Maddy: thank

Morgan: Just kidding.

Maddy: We're not actually doing that!

Morgan: We'd like to thank all of you for being here today.

Maddy: To our parents, for putting up with us for 18 years—and happy Mother's Day to all the mom's out there!

Morgan: Thanks to our teachers, for not only teaching us, but inspiring us to be better people.

Maddy: And by the way—Happy Birthday Ms. Epke!

Morgan: And to our classmates, for making these past 13 years very memorable.

Maddy: Happy Birthday to you, too, Jon!

Morgan: And in the words of Taylor Wolf, "We'd like to thank the sidewalks..."

Maddy: "For keeping us off the streets."

Morgan: For those of you who don't know, the Class of 2013 has always been different.

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Maddy: Just look at our class colors and our motto. Who else would choose a motto, "We came, we conquered, we left?"

Morgan: Hey, it may be a weird motto but we'll go with it!

Maddy: In the fall of 2000, the Class of 2013 took their first steps in the halls of Gothenburg Public Schools. Back then, the classes were still half days. There were playgrounds in the classrooms and we got to have class pets.

Morgan: We continued our journey throughout elementary, attempting to stay out of trouble, but never really succeeding.

Maddy: We have compiled a list of the top five elementary moments for the Class of 2013.

Morgan: No. 5. When Logan K. walked up to the front of the classroom one day during Show-and-Tell in first grade, and announced that he liked Heidi. Who knew that it was actually a dare from Jessie Sisneros?

Maddy: No. 4. Losing recess almost every day in second grade, because we couldn't stop talking.

Morgan: Surprise, surprise.

Maddy: No. 3. Hardcore four-square tournaments that got so intense Mr. Wendelin had to be the referee.

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No. 2. Halsey, and the teachers that actually had the guts to take us canoeing down the river.

Morgan: Mrs. Costello, I still feel bad for tipping your canoe, but just so you know—it was Coopers fault!

Maddy: And finally the No. 1 elementary moment for the 2013 class was when we left. We were on to bigger and better things—junior high school.

Morgan: Let's just say, what happens in junior high, definitely stays in junior high. The one thing we will say about junior high is that our class developed an... interesting reputation.

Maddy: Fast forward two years and our class finally made it to high school.

Morgan: We would like to introduce you all to a few members of our class using the “most likely to” quotes from the yearbook as voted on by our class.

Maddy: Most likely to travel the world-Rebecca Miller.

Morgan: Most likely to take their mom to college-Chase Ostergard.

Maddy: The couple that should've been, but never was-Heidi Teahon and Jordan Ivey.

Morgan: Biggest procrastinator-the entire class!

Maddy: And defending his title of biggest ladies man for four years straight-Jordan Ivey.

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Morgan: We also have a few that missed the cut. For example, most likely to get his own Redneck reality TV show funnier than Duck Dynasty-Noah Tripp and his “posse.”

Maddy: That would make them happy, happy, happy.

Morgan: Most likely to drop the ball on planning our high school reunion-Logan Sheets.

Maddy: And last but not least, most likely to have 100+ cats-Carlie Stevens.

Saying our class has been a challenge for teachers would definitely be an understatement. But actually, we’ve grown up and matured a lot over the past four years. We went from being the class who got the “Get your stuff together” talk by Mr. Evans every year, to a class who came together to accomplish great things.

Morgan: Sophomore year, we went from being the class that made Mrs. Whiting want to pull her hair out on a daily basis, to being her favorite CP English she’s ever had.

Maddy: And no, she’s NOT lying!

Morgan: Not only have we excelled in the classroom, we also accomplished great things on the court, on the field, and the stage. We are both involved in FFA and have learned a lot about leadership.

Maddy: That’s for Dan Scherer!

Morgan: Our class has stepped up to the plate this year and shown leadership in more ways

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than one.

Maddy: The softball and girls golf teams made it to state, the volleyball team had the best record in school history, and the football team made it farther than expected in playoffs.

Morgan: Moving into the winter, the girl's and boy's basketball teams made it to district finals. And the boys, once again, ruined Cozad's season—just like football!

Maddy: The One-Act team got sixth at state, and the speech team had another outstanding season placing fifth at state.

Morgan: All of this success was led by the Class of 2013.

Maddy: So yes, we did conquer a lot.

Morgan: But, now what? High school is over and now we have to go out into the real world. So, what advice can two, barely legal senior girls give to you?

(Jonathan Rehmert, Logan Koehler, Siera Schwanz and Rebecca Miller ascend the stage)

Maddy: Bear with us, this is the best we could come up with!

Morgan: Whether your plans take you to Lincoln, Kearney, Colorado, North Platte, Wayne, Texas, Chadron, or keep you here at home...

Maddy: Just remember where you came from and the people who have helped you along the

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way.

Morgan: Be the change you want to see in the world.

Maddy: And in the words of Mr. Scott, "Be like Jacey and get Jiggins with it!"

Morgan: We are so excited to see everything this class is going to accomplish in the next few years!

Maddy: See you guys in 10 years, and "nose" goes for planning our class reunion!

Morgan: We'll leave with the words of The Breakfast Club, "You see us as you want to see us, in the simplest terms, in the most convenient definitions..."

Jon: But what we found out, is that each one of us is a brain...

Logan: And an athlete...

Rebecca: A basket case...

Siera: And a princess."

All: So, don't you forget about us.

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Morgan: Because our "future's so bright...

Maddy: We gotta wear shades!"

Morgan: Thank you!

Amanda Larson

Closing Speech

Throughout the years we have read many books in school. One that has really stood out to me was "Oh, the Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss.

When I first read this book in my sophomore year, I thought nothing of the message it was trying to send. After two years of high school and many life experiences, I have realized the significance of what Dr. Seuss is trying to portray.

The first lines of this book start with, "Congratulations! Today is your day. You're off to great places! You're off and away! You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And you are the guy who'll decide where you go."

As the book goes on, it begins to tell us that "sometimes sadly, its true that bang-ups and hang-ups can happen to you. Some how you'll escape all that waiting and staying. You'll find the bright places where boom bands are playing."

In these past two years, this book has become more true to its words than I would have ever imagined.

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Thank you teachers and administration. You have taught us many important lessons.

Thank you to all of our families, for supporting us and preparing us to be on our own.

Thank you coaches, you always pushed us to be the best we could be.

Thank you Class of 2013, it has been a great 13 years. I will never forget the memories we made.

And last, but certainly not least, thank you Wikipedia, Google Translate and SparkNotes.

So, be your name Nikki or Talina or Taylor or Logan Koehler, “you’re off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way!”