

As we graduate, we graduate from a school that is different from when we first entered it. It seems that nothing is the same from when we originally walked through these doors. The front of the building, the music wing, the lockers rooms, the old auditorium, the quad, it's all gone. During my last days of high school, it hurt every time I had to witness the wrestling room, a room that is a part of me, being dismantled. And it makes me sad, to think that the place where I grew up is no longer.

But then I realized, it's not the buildings that are important, it's the memories I have, and the people who helped make them. It is what we did together for the last four years. It was the teachers who taught us and put up with all our shenanigans. It was the fellow performers and instructors in the fine arts. It was the blood, sweat, and tears shared with coaches and teammates. It's not the buildings that were special. It's the people who made the journey of high school special, and all of these people are with us today.

It's the people who taught me everything I know. How to process information and how to clearly convey ideas with words. How to communicate with others and respect their ideas. What pride and tradition is and how they are achieved through teamwork. The true

meaning of hard work and dedication. What it means to be sarcastic. The definition of the words “brick” and “brolick.” The type of music known as Reggae tone. And the clapping beat to “get lite.” Everyone and everything at Sleepy Hollow has helped shape who I am.

What we’ve learned is the spirit of Sleepy Hollow. It is something that past graduates had and something we as a class have already given to future generations. It’s the reason why former players come back to coach and why former students come back to teach. Our spirit will live on long after we’ve left this place.

Congratulations class of 2008, now it’s our turn to share what we’ve learned from Sleepy Hollow with the rest of the world. To show everyone else who we are and what we’re made off. And knowing some of the people in this class, we’re going to have a lot to say.

So I’m not going to miss the school. I’m going to miss the friends, the classmates, the teachers, the coaches, the knowledge and the jokes. I’m going to miss the people who have made these last years what they were.

Thank you.