

Isaac Berthaume

Good afternoon students, faculty, staff and guests. Welcome to the GHS class of 2021 graduation ceremony. I stand before you all today as this class' salutatorian, and it is my honor.

I would first like to thank our parents and staff. It is because of their care and dedication that we are here today, especially during this past year. As we all know, this year has been very different from previous ones, and our success would not be possible without the extra time that you all spent adapting to these uncertain circumstances. You all have helped cultivate a class full of people with unique talents who strive for greatness. For that, we are indebted to you.

To the class of 2021, we have made it at last. Take this time to reflect upon the past 13 years that you all have spent working diligently towards this goal. And now, with this closing of high school, a new chapter begins in our lives. A chapter in which you are in control of now; don't let anyone else tell you differently. After we walk across this stage we will go our separate ways and set off into the real world. Sitting among us are future doctors, lawyers, electricians, teachers, welders, businessmen, and above all leaders in their respective fields. Some of us will continue on in school for eight more years, while others will start their careers next week. Some of you may still not know what you want to do in life, and that's okay. No matter what path that you have chosen, I know that you all will find success in your future endeavors.

I leave you with a quote from Steve Jobs: "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most importantly, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition." Congratulations class of 2021, go out and change the world. Thank you.