

Dear Class of 2014, family and friends, Madam Superintendent, faculty and staff, fellow School Committee members, and Reverend Dr. Matty:

Welcome to the Lincoln Sudbury 2014 graduation ceremonies.

Congratulations, class of 2014. You have done us proud.

If I may, I would like to speak to the L-S class of 2014.

You will barely remember who spoke here or what was said. That is as it should be. Today is your day. So, let me be brief, and get out of the way.

I have just four words for you.

The first two are: “Do Well.”

Doing well is to find something you like, that you are good at, and that the society needs. To be good at anything is to keep asking the question, “How does it work?” and not be satisfied when you have only found half the answer. The more complete an answer you find, the better you become at your craft. This will provide you a good living.

But, if we stop there and not ask ourselves the follow on question, “How can I make it better?” then the world becomes static. It does not change. There will be no new books, no new art, and no new advances in science or even fashion. This is where you come in. You will bring your talents to improve things – even by a tiny bit. Speaking of fashion, I am glad I followed the changes. See, I no longer wear the old bell-bottoms. Lincoln Sudbury has prepared you well – with tough homework to really understand things as they are, and even tougher homework that made you sweat and think in a creative fashion.

So, these two words, “Do Well” are about what you do.

The last two words are: “Be Good.”

Being good is to be ready to receive help and give help. You were helped from the day you were born by your parents and family, and later by your teachers - who do one of the most important jobs in a society. You were helped by your community, which takes care of this beautiful school and staff. You were helped by books that made you think and by music that touched you. So, please ask for help – and not just in academics, but in all matters, particularly when you are not feeling well. Help is all around you. Please ask, and give thanks.

The other part of being good is to give help. We cannot just receive help without giving help. Help at home, help at where you go next, help your town, your state, help your country and the world. You have already started doing this at L-S. Your class has served

the school and the community. You senior students have shown your love to our respected senior citizens at the annual Thanksgiving Day lunch at L-S.

So, these last two words, “Be Good” are about who you are.

Just remember these four words, and with values that you hold dear, continue to: “Do Well. Be Good.”

Congratulations, class of 2014. Good luck and Godspeed.

Thank you.