

## Speech

My name is Sydni Jamros and I am honored to be speaking to you all today as the valedictorian for the class of 2021.

Oftentimes, especially this year, we can get caught up in how unfair life can seem to be. Unfair that she gets this and he gets that. Unfair that we had no senior year. And it is true. It is unfair that we had no senior year. It's unfair that we barely got to see our classmates and had barely any sports, dances, or regular school activities. But the thing about life is that, it's always unfair and unfortunately we can't change that. We can either choose to dwell on the unfairness of life or push forward. The class of 2021 really had to come to terms with this, and quite remarkably we chose to make the best of what we had. Now here we are at our graduation. I know for a lot of us it seemed like it was taking forever for this day to come. Life is going to change now and we will all go down a different path, no two will be the same. This year might have been stolen from us but now, more than ever, we have the future to look forward to. We can look forward to starting our new chapters and truly being grateful and taking every opportunity that comes to us. I know that a lot of us are excited to leave, but we all have something we will miss. The friendships we have made and the memories that will forever hold a place in our hearts.

Yeah, maybe life is unfair. Maybe it doesn't always go exactly how you want it to go, but if we have learned one thing in high school, it would be how to make the best out of some pretty unfair situations. I think my classmates would agree with me when I say that losing our senior year isn't the only unfair thing that has happened to us in our school careers. Sometimes it felt as if we were the forgotten grade. However, we never let this stop us or define how our high school experience would be.

So remember in the future to never take any moment for granted. If I could go back and change one thing about my high school experience, it would be that. I wish that I enjoyed every moment and didn't get so caught up in the grades or the drama sometimes. You only have one life to live and most of the time you don't have a chance to go back and change the things you wish you could. I'm sure a lot of us wish we could go back and truly take in one more western mass game, one more musical performance, one more band performance, or simply one more truly normal day of school. But we can't, and you know what? That is okay. We did the best we could this year and now we only have up to go. I'm sure all of my classmates will do amazing things in the future and I truly wish each and everyone one of you the best of luck in whatever it is you choose to do. Congrats to everyone, we did it!