**GRADUATION SPEECH ASSIGNMENT**

**

It is a requirement of the PMHS English Department to compose a **three to five minute** graduation speech which you will write and deliver to our class.

The format is up to you and creativity is always welcome. However, please focus on a single, memorable event from your past at Pelham and tell how that event changed you, etc. OR focus on a single issue or concern that you have about our world/society and tell why it concerns you, etc. Please don’t make it a string of “zany things” that happened to you while skipping down Memory Lane!

Whatever you decide, be sure to have **concrete details** and **specific descriptions**. They make the speech memorable!

The final word-processed speech is worth **100 points**. You will also be graded on your speech delivery.

We will draw for speaker placement. Extra credit for volunteers!

Final word-processed speeches are due on the day you deliver your speech.

***If you are interested in delivering your speech at the Graduation Ceremony, it must be submitted to me by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!***

**Requirements & Recommendations:**

1. Typed – 12 point font double-spaced
2. Three to five minutes long. 600- 950 words
3. Try to engage and inspire your listeners *from the start*
4. NO NEGATIVITY
5. Be creative! Consider using HUMOR!

**Other helpful tips:**

Graduation is a formal occasion and your speech should reflect this.

Your speech should have a unifying thesis and your ideas should be listed in a clear logical order. Do not simply thank lists of people. You may want to express ideas that will help your classmates with the challenges they will face after graduation.

You should have control over spelling, sentence structure and mechanics. Your paper should not, for example, contain grammar errors or sentence fragments.

**REMINDERS ON PROPER SPEAKING SKILLS:**

* Loud and clear voice projection
* Tone fluctuations
* Effective use of pauses
* Eye contact & facial expressions
* Appropriate body language
* Gestures
* Vocal variety
* Expression