

# 2019 Senior Commencement Speech Guidelines

## **Who may audition?**

Any Walnut High School Senior participating in the 2019 graduation ceremony is eligible to audition.

## **What speeches will be given at Commencement?**

There will be two commencement speeches. Speeches may be reminiscent (looking back in joyous reflection on changes and growth) or forward-looking (to higher education and the future). Speeches can be humorous or inspirational in orientation. Commencement speakers may choose to focus on contributions made by fellow classmates, parents, faculty or society; or may look to the future, encouraging the class to succeed in all their various pursuits.

Remember to keep your classmates and their parents in mind when you write your speech.

## **How long should the speech be?**

Each speech is a maximum of three minutes long.

## **How will speakers be chosen?**

Speech auditions will be held May 7-9 in room E-8 during lunch. **Speeches are due on Thursday May 2 by 3:00pm. Turn in speeches to your GLC. Make sure your name is on your speech.** Attach the senior speech application information to your speech. Audition times will be posted on the door of room E-8 on Friday May 3. Please bring your own copy to the audition and be prepared to read/perform it in front of a panel of teachers, students, and administrators.

## **Will the two chosen speakers get help?**

There will be coaching on structure, content, and delivery for all chosen speeches.

## **Tips for successful commencement speeches:**

1. Avoid clichés and generalizations
2. Make it “our” speech (Class of 2019), not your speech
3. Keep it positive
4. Humor is acceptable, but it is not a comedy routine
5. Know how to pronounce the words you use!

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## 2019 Senior Speech Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Period 4 Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Contact the senior class advisors (Mrs. Nicolas E-2 or Ms. Redcher E-8) if you have any questions.