

Good evening graduates, friends, and family. To the graduating class of 2021, the challenges and adversity you have faced as individuals, groups, teams, and families throughout the year has demonstrated your resilience. You have banded together, supported one another, and accomplished a great many things. Adversity can build character or reveal character, you all have proved that despite the many bumps in the road to get to this moment, sitting among your peers and your family, that "Family Finds a Way." I stand before you tonight humbled by the character you have demonstrated, and the power of the red land family.

Our family isn't defined by last names or by blood, our family, our Red Land family is defined by loyalty, commitment, compassion, and roots that run deep. I know first-hand how this Red Land family embraces and holds you tight so you never have to weather storms alone. This same red land family will faithfully adorn themselves in red, white, and blue, symbolizing the legions of fans celebrating your successes big and small. I recently read an anonymous quote that hit home, "family isn't always blood. It's the people in your life who want you in theirs. The ones who accept you for who you are. The ones who would do anything to see your smile and who love you no matter what." This family, the red land family, is the epitome of that quote, we accept you for who are, and love you no matter what.

We had a powerful moment at our final senior class meeting, when RJ raised his hand and solemnly requested for one final opportunity to hear his classmates chant Red Land. That moment showed true unification of the class of 2021, and solidified the concept that family finds a way. As I look out upon you for this final time, I want you to remember that families are like branches on a tree, we grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one. So, wherever life may take you, please know you may always come home. RJ, I would be honored if you would stand and lead your class in one final chant.

It is with great pride and pleasure that I now present the 2021 Red Land High School graduating class, to Dr. Stoltz and Mr. Kambic, as I declare that these graduates of the class of 2021 have met all the requirements for graduation outlined by West Shore School District Policy and criteria set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Education - including required subjects and total credits. They are therefore entitled to receive a Red Land High School diploma from the West Shore School District. Congratulations.