

Graduation Speakers

3 Graduation Speakers:

Speaker:	Chosen by:	Determination:
Class President	Elected by Graduating Class	Class Election
Graduates with an unweighted cumulative 4.0 GPA	HS & Central Administration	WJHSD Written Graduation Speech Rubric - best overall speech as determined by scores.
Any Member of Graduating Class	“Speech Reading Committee” of Faculty (as determined by the HS admin team) - chooses top 5 using the WJHSD Written Graduation Speech Rubric	Entire HS Faculty votes on the best speech (1) of the 5 using WJHSD Written Graduation Speech Rubric

1. All submissions are read without students name attached to the speech
2. Speeches will focus on our core values (Respect, Empathy, & Integrity) or other topics determined by Thomas Jefferson High School Faculty
3. All graduates who submit a speech will be required to attend Speech Writing (2) and Public Speaking(2) PLTs in order to submit remarks to the committee. Any student who does not attend a minimum of 4 sessions will not have their speech evaluated by the Speech Reading Committee.
4. Rubric scoring sheets, as well as written speeches, will be saved for a period of 2 calendar years.

WJHSD Graduation Speech Rubric - Written

	DID NOT MEET REQUIREMENTS	MEETS SOME REQUIREMENTS	MEETS ALL REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL POINTS
<p>MESSAGE & THEME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is the speech inspirational?</i> • <i>Will it be embraced by the student body?</i> • <i>Was the message universal (minimal use of references to specific individuals)?</i> 	<p>0 Points (speech has several challenges, examples of which may include):</p> <p>The speech contains a few messages that an audience would consider inspirational.</p> <p>The message was not unique to the school or individual's experience.</p> <p>The message contained too many references to specific individuals or stories, making the speech unrelatable.</p>	<p>3 Points (Speech has some challenges but also meets some requirements, examples may include):</p> <p>Some original thought is evident.</p> <p>The speaker attempts to inspire the audience in some cases.</p> <p>The message is somewhat relevant to the student body, but there may be some challenges.</p>	<p>6 Points (Speech has very few challenges in message and theme:)</p> <p>Original thought is evident.</p> <p>The speaker attempts to inspire the audience.</p> <p>The message can be easily understood and embraced by the student body.</p>	<p>_____ / 6</p>
<p>GRAMMAR/SPELLING</p> <p><i>Does the speaker use proper mechanics and spelling in his/her writing?</i></p>	<p>0 points</p> <p>The speaker has significant grammar and spelling errors throughout the speech, making it difficult to understand the underlying meaning.</p>	<p>1 point</p> <p>The speaker has some challenges with grammar or spelling, but the overall message is not impacted significantly.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>The speaker has very few or no challenges with grammar and spelling.</p>	<p>_____ / 2</p>
<p>COHERENCY</p> <p><i>Does the speaker communicate his/her thoughts completely, clearly, and in an organized manner?</i></p>	<p>0 points</p> <p>The speech is not well organized. It is very difficult to understand the speaker's point.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>It is evident that the speaker had a point, but some work will need to be done to organize or refine what is written so that it is easier to understand.</p>	<p>4 points</p> <p>The speaker was very thoughtful in writing his/her speech. It is clear, contains complete thoughts, and is well organized.</p>	<p>_____ / 4</p>
<p>CREATIVITY</p> <p><i>Is the speaker's message to graduates unique and memorable?</i></p>	<p>0 points</p> <p>The speech is not memorable. The ideas conveyed a lack of creativity.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>The speech contains some creative and unique elements, but many sections are unmemorable.</p>	<p>4 points</p> <p>The speech stands out among other speeches because the theme is easy to remember</p>	<p>_____ / 4</p>
<p>TOTAL POINTS:</p>				<p>_____ / 16</p>