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## C-Mail

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### ***Good Evening !***

#### **Graduation**

It is hard to believe that there is so little left in this school year!

Commencement was spectacular. Former Ambassador to the Vatican Ray Flynn spoke, as did our own Alexandra Knowles, Kaitlyn Galvin and Shane Glavin. Mr. Flynn offered many poignant words. The ones I will remember most came when he described how it felt for him to be the last athlete cut from the Boston Celtics. "I was away from home and disappointed beyond belief when Red Aurbach told me," recalled Mr. Flynn, "but rather than take that disappointment to a bar room, I took it to a church and asked for strength; because all things are possible with God."

Disappointment touches us all. Who better to share it with, and overcome it with, than God?

Kaitlyn celebrated her class' past and shared her memories. Shane celebrated his class' future and shared his vision. Alex was perfect as our host and class president. All three reminded me of another quote. It comes from Daniel Webster and says, "If I were to lose all my powers but one, the one I would keep would be the power to speak in public. With that, I could earn back all of the others."

Kaitlyn, Alex, and Shane were all powerful and perfect!

Our seniors were perfect, as well. They made their commencement both a celebration and a ceremony at the same time. As I said, they were perfect.

There were a lot of special quotes from seniors, too. One student said, "Dr. M, I thought I would be happy tonight, and I am. Still, I am more proud than I am happy. I have been counting the days all year. Now that the end is here, I will miss our school more than I thought."

Another said, "Dr. M, you have done some good since you got here. Don't you dare stop now that we are leaving. We will be back to check up on you!"

Kind (and funny) words, but untrue. I have not done some good. WE have done some good.

Be proud! Our seniors are!

Last but not least, one senior commented on my robes. "Wow, Mr. President," he said, "you look like a Prime Minister! How can I get one of those?"

Great night! Great kids! We will miss them!

#### **Annual Appeal**

As the school year comes to a close so does our Annual Appeal, which supports academic programs, financial aid, technology, student activities and faculty salaries. A big "thank you" goes out to the nearly 600 alumni who have given this year. If you haven't had a chance to make your gift – which counts toward your Class Total – it is not too late! You have until June 30 to support this year's appeal. Consider an online gift at <https://www.awhs.org/alumni-make-a-gift>. All gifts are gratefully appreciated – it is your participation that matters!

#### **New space**

And now, another Quote!

"My house is your house."

Yes, I do mean 40 Independence Ave.

All of it and any of it is yours; especially our new conference room!

Thanks to the hard work of our facilities staff and "some help from our friends," we have turned four tiny and discombobulated storerooms into a very nice meeting area. It can handle 20 alumni comfortably, so if you ever need such a

space, just tell me when, and it is yours!

## **Sports**

We are proud to announce that our boys and girls lacrosse teams and our baseball team qualified to compete in this year's MIAA tournament! The baseball team has made it through the first two rounds and plays again today at 4:00 at Rockland Stadium against Abington High School! Thanks if you can join us!

The girls were able to play their tournament game "under the lights". It was our first night game since last fall. As many of you know, we have been working for quite a while with Braintree's Planning Board on some issues of neighbor sensitivity. After a number of meetings, The Board held a hearing last week and approved a plan that would allow us to host ten games per year or two games per sport per season.) We will also be allowed to use the lights for practice in the late fall and early spring.

I thank our parents, coaching staff, athletic department, and, most of all, our athletes for being so patient with us while this issue was being resolved.

Speaking of the stadium, our new track is scheduled to be installed starting on Monday, July 6!

We hope to be using the stadium and the school for the two weeks before that date in order to host our first Summer Enrichment Program. A brochure is available at <http://www.awhs.org/assets/Misc/Summerprogram2009.pdf> . The price is amazing, the courses are fantastic, and the teachers (our own) don't get any better!

Registrations are being accepted through June 1. Because it is a brand new program, numbers are harder to come by. If you have or know of any middle schoolers, tell them to be our pioneers!

They will be glad they did, I promise!

### **Dates to remember:**

***Tonite-June 3: Summer Social at the Water Club in Marina Bay.*** Please come to celebrate summer AND to honor Brother Bill Drinan and Kathy Whalen Giannandrea!

***June 13: Our Fallen Heroes Memorial Service.*** Don't miss this. It will honor the six AWHHS graduates who have given their lives in service to our country. Our school has never done anything more worthy, or more right. It starts at 11:00 AM. Lunch will follow at noon. Pray with us. Cry with us. Remember with us. Say "thank you" with us.

Last but not least, comes our picture.

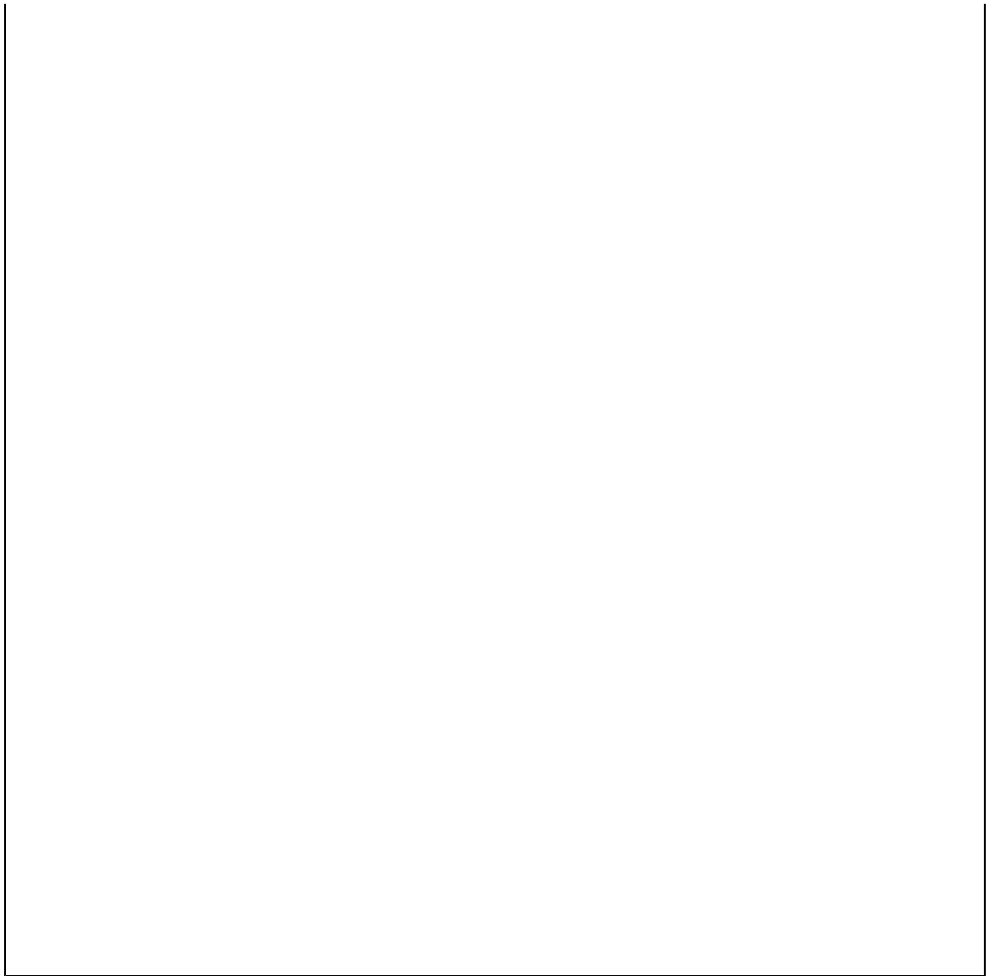
It needs one more quote; "Youth is a gift of nature, while age is a work of art."

Our school has both. Be proud!

Always,

C





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