

Graduation

At the start of this school year, I had the mindset that this was going to be my last year at The Community School, even though, technically, I would only be a sophomore at another high school. I tried to work my hardest this year, but I still feel that I have some more work to do before I am ready to move on, so I will be back next year.

Over these past months, I have progressed significantly...especially in math. Last summer, I had a break from math and then, when school got back in session I was like, "Oh no, math is back." I would get frustrated with the work and want to throw it out the window. I knew deep inside that I could overcome it, but it was a struggle. Tom and I have had our moments with math but, in the end, he'd calm me down and get me focused and relaxed.

This year, I did not reach my goal getting on the honor roll. This will not discourage me. I know I have another year to make it. One goal I did achieve was to participate in class and have a greater role in the school than just being a student. I have come out of my shy shell and let people see who I am.

The Community School has changed my life in many ways. First, my grades are better! Second, my family and I have gotten closer. But mostly, this school has opened my eyes to an entirely different world. Believe it or not, I am a sixteen year old girl taking college classes. I never thought I would go to college, but now I already have a toe in the water.

I would like to thank Tom for all his hard work. I couldn't ask for a better teacher. He stops at nothing to help each of the students reach their goals. Tom is like a father to me. He has made me feel like I can come to him whenever I need him.

Other people I would like to thank are the tutors from Johns Hopkins University. Tutors you have saved me from going crazy. Your time and hard work is appreciated. Sarah, Greg, and Byung Joon, you have helped me understand math, and science. Thanks for all your help.

Now for my family...First, my mother. My mom and I never use to talk about school. She'd ask how school was and I would answer fine. My mother is one of my biggest supporters...and my best friend. Second is my grandfather. My grandfather is my heart and soul. When I talk to him about history, I learn even more about it. I love you, Poppy. Third is Nana, my grandmother. I go home and talk to her about the news and she is the one to always call me in the morning to see if I am up. Thanks, Nana.

Last, but not least, are my friends. All of you have brought smiles to my face and have made me laugh in so many different ways. One friend I would really like to thank is Sara. You are such an inspiration to me. You are like a sister I never had. You always put a smile on my face and are able to help me through whatever. I am going to miss you next year. Thank you, Sara!

Thank you all for being a part of my life and time at The Community School .It means a lot to me to have you in my corner.

Amanda McCarty