

Advisory Board Speech – *Sherry Welch*

There are a number of Advisory Board members here today, and on their behalf, I would like to congratulate all the students for such wonderful accomplishments this year.

We've all heard Tom talk about the best class ever, and I know that he really means it.

I always find it a little unusual that the school has an Advisory Board because whenever we have an opportunity to meet with the students, we are the ones who usually learn. We learn about good habits, perseverance, friendship, and teamwork, and we do that by watching and listening to you. So, we are very grateful that you allow us to be a part of your lives.

One quick point of privilege. I do want to give one word of advice because I just can't help myself, and that is as we go through these next weeks and months you continue to strive to be all that you can be, continue to work hard, continue to have those positive attitudes, and don't get too caught with the idea of being perfect. Perfection is overrated, and perfection, trying to be perfect, can sometimes stop us right dead in our tracks. So, instead of trying to be perfect, just be you; try to be the best you can be. Just try to remember these words from my favorite singer/songwriter/poet, Leonard Cohen. He said, "Ring out the bells that still can ring. Forget your perfect offering. There's a crack in everything, and that's how the light gets in." Congratulations to all!