

Indian Inclinations: Opinions from our Editors

GRAY’S THOUGHTS

...On Senior Quotes



Grayson McDowell
Editor in Chief

The tradition of senior quotes hails from a time when well-dressed young men and young women posed in front of film cameras for a truly proud moment. A senior quote is just a few brief words to punctuate the legacy of a student who has left his or her mark on the school.

In short, and it’s a lot of pressure.

It’s an enormous decision. As a person who has many role models and influences, I waffled between

something serious and something short, something heart-felt and something insightful, something self-aware and something unconventional. What could be deeper than the classic “If there’s a fork in the road—pick it up?” Change the conditions of the test! That’s the message.

But maybe I’d rather go with something a bit classier: “As a great theologian once said, ‘Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.’—Ferris Bueller” What about Einstein, or Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., or C.S. Lewis (an actual theologian), or Robert Frost, or Thomas Jefferson, or Nikola Tesla? How do I pick a favorite? If I were you, dear senior, I would pick

the quotation that sticks in my head, the one that becomes my mantra, whether a Bible verse or a movie quote.

Considering that senior quotes had to be submitted about a month ago or so, it’s too late now. Whatever you chose at the ripe old age of seventeen or eighteen will be what your kids read about in thirty years’ time. It might as well be “See kids, I told you your dad looked good,” but it’s more likely “Congratulations, Class of 2020.”

I know what you’re thinking. You’re thinking “He doesn’t know what I’m thinking!” and also “What’s your senior quote, Grayson?” I’ll give you a hint: the guy’s quotes are very popular (second only to Jay-Z), he’s more American than McDonald’s apple pies, and he is a famous, dead white dude (that I haven’t mentioned). There, that should whittle it down.

Homecoming Memories

Take a look back at each of the GHS classes reuniting for 2019 Homecoming.



Life with Leah... The Value of College?

Leah Bowen
Student Life Editor

With our high school years slowly slipping through our fingers as we grow older, seniors are always required to “have a plan.” The topic almost always gets brought up in any conversation with a senior.

Imagine this... you are walking through Walmart and you see an old teacher of yours who you adore. You give her a hug and ask how she is. She answers thoroughly with details of how much time has changed and then it never fails that the conversation quickly turns to life in regards of yourself.

“You’ve grown up so much since I last saw you. What are you, a senior now?” She says. You quickly reply, “Yes ma’am, I’m a senior now.” You let out a light laugh. “I’m getting old.”

A wide-eyed smile comes across her face as she asks, “Where are you planning on going to college?”

You freeze the moment in time and stand there aimlessly. Your face becomes flushed as you feel that everyone in the room is now paying attention to you and your answer to this timeless question. You fiddle your thumbs and listen to the thoughts racing through your head.

“Why is this question so important though? What if I’m not even planning on attending college? Will I get backlash if I say I’m not going? What will everyone think of me? Will I get mocked if I don’t go and end up not doing as well as I initially planned? Will she be disappointed in me? Why are they still standing here

waiting for me to answer after so long?”

You see, these conversations happen way too frequently for me. A majority of adults expect seniors to have their entire lives figured out. What do we do after college? A stereotypical view is that some of us will go off to college and be successful and the others will live a basic life and struggle forever.

For the people with the mindset that people have to go to college in order to be labeled successful, here’s a newsflash: So many people who don’t go to college end up having no debt, a nice life, benefits at work, all while making more money than many people who did go to college.

College is not a necessity. College is not for everyone. It’s as simple as that. Society puts so much pressure on teenagers to go through more schooling and to do things they don’t want to do. So many teenagers end up going to college only because they don’t want to fall short of expectations that people set and don’t want to disappoint.

Yes, college is good for many people. College presents so many opportunities to so many different career choices. However, there is nothing wrong with taking a risk and opting out of attending college if



you have a plan. Some graduates straight out of high school have a good paying job without even having to go to college. Although this isn’t always the case for people, if you have an opportunity like that, I don’t see why you wouldn’t take it. Many students don’t even know these opportunities exist, either. If students were more informed of more options earlier on then maybe the unemployment rate would go down, and student debt wouldn’t be so high.

I’m not saying college is worthless because college is an amazing opportunity and can change lives. I feel as if college is very beneficial, but I believe society should change their viewpoint on those who don’t go to college.

At the end of the day, we are young and still trying to figure out life. Sometimes the pressure can be a little unbearable. Students should have at least some sort of plan and career goals, but the stereotype of people being unsuccessful just because they don’t go to college should be lifted.

