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Series: Speech File Draft Files
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OA/ID Number: 13571
Folder ID Number: 13571-001

Folder Title:
Night School Graduation Ceremony 6/7/91 [OA 6034]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	17	1	7

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 06/07/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY/SEAFORD, DE
(06/07 6:45 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☐	☒
SUNUNU	☐	☐	PETERSMEYER	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☐	PORTER	☐	☒
DARMAN	☐	☒	ROGICH	☐	☒
BRADY	☐	☒	SMITH	☐	☒
BROMLEY	☐	☐	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☐	☒	SNOW	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒		☐	☐
GRAY	☐	☒		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☐	☒		☐	☐

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

91 JUN -7 PM 7:34

June 7, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*
FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*
SUBJECT: GROVES ADULT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

On Tuesday, June 11th at 12:30 p.m. you will speak (approximately 12 minutes) at the graduation ceremony of the Groves Adult High School held in Seaford High School Auditorium in Seaford, Delaware. Secretary Alexander will accompany of you. Governor Michael Castle introduces you.

While your remarks highlight the particular achievements of the graduating Groves students, the event itself draws attention to Track Three of your America 2000 education strategy; i.e. adult literacy and lifelong learning. The speech also draws attention to the importance of family support in achieving educational excellence.

McGroarty/Grossman
June 7, 1991
6:45 pm
[NIGHT]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

Thank you, Governor Castle, for those kind words -- and thanks to all of you for this warm welcome. {I'm especially pleased today to be here with our very able Secretary of Education, Lamar Alexander.} I know every member of the Groves High Class of '91 would want me to recognize the dedication and deep commitment of your Principal, Wayne Meluney. //

Finally, let me congratulate today's graduates, their friends and families. I appreciate your being here -- and I understand it wasn't easy. After all, when you go to night school, you can't always make it to a graduation during the day.

I remember when the teacher would want a note whenever you missed a day of school. Today, I understand a few of you could have used a note for your employers explaining why you'd be absent from work. // I can't write notes for you -- but I can thank all the employers out there for giving you the day off.

The night school at Groves High Schools is one of the few of its kind in the country: a night school fully-accredited to grant a regular high school diploma. //

This should teach something to all of us who care about American education. Groves provides a shining example of the kind of innovative approach to education I have in mind when I

challenge communities all across this country to create the New American School. //

Many of you may know that back in April, we unveiled a new National Education Strategy -- America 2000 -- to help our schools and students reach the six ambitious education goals we've set for the year 2000. That strategy moves toward the future on four tracks. / First, we start with building better and more accountable schools for today. Second, we want to create a new generation of American schools for tomorrow. Third, we've got to build a consensus that education doesn't end when your high school days are over: young and old, we must become a nation of students. Fourth, we must focus beyond the four walls of the classroom -- and cultivate communities where learning can -- and will -- happen. //

We're working with the Governors -- with education and business leaders and many others -- to challenge each community across the country to make this a national crusade to improve our schools.

I'm here today to celebrate your choice to become students again. Each one of you made the choice to take on tremendous odds and triumph over indifference: You found your way back to school -- and a way forward in life. //

We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if
when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But one door never closes. You can always return to school.

One study shows that almost half of all students who drop out return to the classroom within 4 years. In between, they learn the hard way that the world of work has little to offer for those who don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs -- and the promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

Programs like this one offer a way back to school -- a way up in the world. In a world of too many dashed hopes and dead-ends, schools like Groves can open doors to a better future. //

The diploma you receive today tells the world that you have done more than meet the prescribed state requirements. You've returned to the classroom, you've cracked the books, you've stayed up late studying and learning -- and you've made the grade. This diploma tells the world of your self-discipline and drive -- and it testifies more eloquently than anyone ever can to the power of your will -- and your dreams.

Many of you have travelled a tough road to get here. //

We've heard today from Vicki Eastburn and Bill Gibbs: how Vicki came here to get a good education -- and how her husband and children taught her the true value of family. //

We heard how Bill dropped out before most of today's graduates were even born

-- how he came back to school nearly 30 years, six kids and one heart attack later [[and no, there's no link between the last two]] -- Bill came back to finish that degree. // But the best thing about Bill's story is not what he's managed to do, but where he's going from here: he's won a scholarship to study at Delaware Technical and Community College. //

Each one of you has a story. Consider Kathy Tucker. Fourteen years ago, Kathy got married. She went to work. She had a child -- and she left school. Kathy promised herself she'd come back to finish high school when her own son started kindergarten. It took a little longer, but she kept that promise. Today Kathy collects her diploma -- and she shows her three kids just what happens when you set a goal and refuse to let circumstance stand in your way. She is a living portrait in self-determination: in what it means to want an education so much that you'll work for it, you'll sacrifice for it -- and you'll get it. //

I know many of the parents graduating today believe becoming students again has helped them become better teachers of their own children -- and that is true. / But I want to say to Kathy Tucker -- and to all the parents in the Class of '91 who have worked so hard to get here: you've already taught your children a lesson in the value of learning. //

Finally, let me share a story about Rosemary Everton. Rosemary does not belong to today's class -- she graduated with

the Groves Class of '72. But her story ought to give you a glimpse of possibilities to come.

Today, while you look back with quiet pride on all you've done to get here, Rosemary's story lets you know that the doors you've opened may lead to a destiny even you cannot imagine. //

Rosemary Everton got married and dropped out at the age of 15, even before she got to high school. At 16, with a baby and a full time job, she decided to go back to school. For two years, she took classes at Grove, four nights a week. She cared for a baby, held down a job, built a sturdy marriage -- and she got her degree. //

Rosemary says: "To this day, I still do not know how I did it. I do know that after receiving a high school diploma this way, I felt that there was nothing I could not do. That is what kept me going even when I felt there was no way I could do everything at once -- because, I had already done everything at once."

Today, Rosemary Everton and her husband have their own company, and they employ more than 200 people. // Rosemary has this to say about what Groves taught her: "(I) learned math, English and history -- but something more important. I learned that there is nothing I can't do with patience and perseverance."

Sometimes you have to know what you want to explore how great you can be. For Rosemary, today's success began with a small but sensible dream: to get that diploma. You will have to decide what lies over your own horizon. You already have taken

the first, great step. As Rosemary said, there's nothing you can't do.

Everyone here today has made it to this place with the help and encouragement of others: parents who gave up a few evenings a week to babysit. Husbands or wives who did a few extra chores to let you go to class. Even children who worked extra hard to keep quiet around the house, so you could study for that big test. //

Today your family and friends share your joy and the pride you quite rightly feel. //

But today, you stand at center stage. You made it through school -- for one reason, and one reason alone: because you came back. When it could have been easy to lean on excuses or sink into bitterness -- you decided to hold yourselves responsible for your future. You made demands on yourself. // You made it your mission to learn. ///

Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. / Let me extend a special invitation: Tomorrow, on the South Lawn of the White House, I'll be talking to some other extraordinary Americans about the challenges we face as a Nation. It would be an honor to have today's graduates join us tomorrow evening at the White House. // With your drive and determination, you are just the kind of people who will help lead us ahead -- into the next American century. //

Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

McGroarty/Grossman
June 7, 1991
6:45 pm
[NIGHT]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

Nick
OK

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Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. / Let me extend a special invitation: Tomorrow, on the South Lawn of the White House, I'll be talking to some other extraordinary Americans about the challenges we face as a Nation. It would be an honor to have today's graduates join us tomorrow evening at the White House. // With your drive and determination, you are just the kind of people who will help lead us ahead -- into the next American century. //

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 7, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*
FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*
SUBJECT: GROVES ADULT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

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While your remarks highlight the particular achievements of the graduating Groves students, the event itself draws attention to Track Three of your America 2000 education strategy; i.e. adult literacy and lifelong learning. The speech also draws attention to the importance of family support in achieving educational excellence.

McGroarty/Grossman
June 7, 1991
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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

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We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

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One study shows that almost half of all students who drop out return to the classroom within 4 years. In between, they learn the hard way that the world of work has little to offer for those who don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs - - and the promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

Programs like this one offer a way back to school -- a way up in the world. In a world of too many dashed hopes and dead-ends, schools like Groves can open doors to a better future. //

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Each one of you has a story. Consider Kathy Tucker. Fourteen years ago, Kathy got married. She went to work. She had a child -- and she left school. Kathy promised herself she'd come back to finish high school when her own son started kindergarten. It took a little longer, but she kept that promise. Today Kathy collects her diploma -- and she shows her three kids just what happens when you set a goal and refuse to let circumstance stand in your way. She is a living portrait in self-determination: in what it means to want an education so much that you'll work for it, you'll sacrifice for it -- and you'll get it. //

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Rosemary says: "To this day, I still do not know how I did it. I do know that after receiving a high school diploma this way, I felt that there was nothing I could not do. That is what kept me going even when I felt there was no way I could do everything at once -- because, I had already done everything at once."

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Today your family and friends share your joy and the pride you quite rightly feel. //

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Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. / Let me extend a special invitation: Tomorrow, on the South Lawn of the White House, I'll be talking to some other extraordinary Americans about the challenges we face as a Nation. It would be an honor to have today's graduates join us tomorrow evening at the White House. // With your drive and determination, you are just the kind of people who will help lead us ahead -- into the next American century. //

Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

McGroarty/Grossman
June 6, 1991
7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

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SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

Thank you, Governor Castle, for those kind words -- and thanks to all of you for this warm welcome. {I'm especially pleased today to be here with our very able Secretary of Education, Lamar Alexander.} I know every member of the Groves High Class of '91 would want me to recognize the dedication and deep commitment of their Principal, Wayne Meluney. //

I realize the students at Seaford High are happy to see me come. Today was supposed to be their last day of the year, but because we had to borrow the auditorium, their summer started one day early. //

Finally, let me congratulate today's graduates, their friends and family. I appreciate your being here -- and I understand it wasn't easy. When you go to night school, I know it can be difficult to have a graduation during the day. //

I remember when the **teacher** would want a note whenever you were **absent from school**. Today, I understand a few of you could have used a note for your **employers** explaining why you'd be **absent from work**. // I can't write all of you notes -- but I **can** thank all the employers out there for giving you the day off.

The night school at Groves High School is unique -- the only program of its kind in the country: a night school fully-accredited to grant a regular high school diploma. //

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I'm here today to celebrate the choice you've made to become students again. Each one of you is living proof that it is never too late to learn. Each one of you has overcome **tremendous odds and cold indifference to find your way back to school** -- to find a way forward in life. //

We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But I think -- without intending to -- that too often as a society we act almost as if when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

Every one of you is living proof that that's not true. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But **one door never closes**. You can come always back to school.

Some studies show that almost **half** of all students who drop out **return to the classroom within 4 years**. In between, they learn that it can be a cruel world without a diploma: they see that, most of the time, the good jobs go to the people with the degree. That even if you get a job, without that diploma, it's difficult to advance. //

Programs like this one offer a way back to school -- and a way up in the world. In a world of dashed hopes and dead-ends, **night schools like Groves can open doors to a better future**. //

The diploma you receive today is far more than proof you've met the prescribed state requirements -- or that you've made the passing grade. This diploma is **testament to your self-discipline and drive** -- but more than that, to the power of your **dreams**.

Many of you have travelled a tough road to get here. // We've heard today from Vicki Eastburn and Bill Gibbs: how Vicki came here to get a good education -- and how her husband and children taught her the **true value of family**. // We heard how Bill dropped out before most of today's graduates were even born -- how he came back to school nearly 30 years, six kids and one heart attack later [[and no, there's no link between the last two]] -- Bill came back to finish that degree. // But the best thing about Bill's story is not what he's **managed to do**, but

where he's going from here: he's won a scholarship to study at Delaware Technical and Community College. //

Each one of you has a story to tell. There's Kathy Tucker. 13 years ago, Kathy got married. She went to work. She had a child -- and she left school. Kathy promised herself she'd come back to finish high school when her own son started kindergarten. It took a little longer, but Kathy kept that promise. Today she's a high school graduate -- and she's a **role model for her three kids** -- a study in self-determination: in what it means to want an education so much you're ready to sacrifice for it. //

Finally, let me share a story about Rosemary Everton. Rosemary is **not** a member of today's class -- she's a graduate of Groves Class of '72. (Because today,) while you look back with quiet pride on all you've done to get here, you should know that the doors you've opened may lead to a destiny even you cannot imagine. //

Rosemary Everton got married and dropped out at the age of 15, even before she got to high school. At 16, with a baby and a full time job, she decided to go back to school. For two years, she took classes at Grove, four nights a week, balanced a baby, a job and a marriage -- and she got her degree. //

Rosemary says: "To this day, I still do not know how I did it. (But) I do know that receiving a high school diploma this way, I felt that there was nothing I could not do. This is what kept me going when I felt there was no way I could do everything at once. Because, I had already done everything at once."

Rosemary Everton worked hard to make ends meet, to raise a family, and graduate from Groves. / Today, she and her husband **own their own company, and employ more than 200 people.** //

Rosemary has this to say about what Groves taught her: "(I) learned math, English and history -- but something more important. I learned that there is nothing I can't do with patience and perseverance." //

It's standard to say at graduations that "where you go from here is up to you." Yet there's a hard-won truth in that statement. Today, it's a truth **you teach all of us.** //

Everyone here today has had some help and encouragement along the way: **parents** who gave up a few evenings a week to babysit. **Husbands or wives** who did a few extra chores to let you go to class. **Even children** who worked extra hard to keep quiet around the house, so you could study for that big test. //

→ Today your family and friends share your joy and ^{the} pride you feel. //

But today, you are center stage. You made it through school -- for one reason, and one reason alone: because you **came back.** Because when it would have been easy to make **excuses** -- you **made demands on yourself.** // You made it your mission to learn.

Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. // Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 JUN 7 A12:27

DATE: 06/06/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:00 p.m. Friday 06/07

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY/SEAFORD, DE
(06/06 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☐	PETERSMEYER	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
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DEMAREST	☒	☐	SNOW	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒		☐	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 1:00 p.m. on Friday, 06/07, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

MASTER*
(SEE HOLLY'S ADDITIONAL COMMENTS)

RESPONSE:

See Comments, Thanks,
Holly Williamson
6-7-91

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Grossman
June 6, 1991
7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

91 JUN -6 PM 9:14

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

Thank you, Governor Castle, for those kind words -- and thanks to all of you for this warm welcome. {I'm especially pleased today to be here with our very able Secretary of Education, Lamar Alexander.} I know every member of the Groves High Class of '91 would want me to recognize the dedication and deep commitment of your Principal, Wayne Meluney. //

I realize the students at Seaford High are happy to see me here today. Because we had to borrow the auditorium, their summer started a day early. //

Finally, let me congratulate today's graduates, their friends and families. I appreciate your being here -- and I understand it wasn't easy. After all, when you go to night school, you can't always make it to a graduation during the day. //

I remember when the **teacher** would want a note whenever you missed a day of school. Today, I understand a few of you could have used a note for your **employers** explaining why you'd be **absent from work**. // I can't write notes for you -- but I can thank all the employers out there for giving you the day off. *time (D²)*

The night school at Groves High School is unique -- *one of* ~~the only~~ *the few* program of its kind in the country: a night school fully-accredited to grant a regular high school diploma. //

Yes
Yes
✓ not true.
(poed.)

This should teach something to all of us who care about American education. Groves provides a shining example of the kind of innovative approach to education I have in mind when I challenge communities all across this country to create the New American School. //

Many of you may know that back in April, we unveiled a new National Education Strategy -- America 2000 -- to help our schools and students reach the six ambitious education goals we've set for the year 2000. That strategy moves toward the future on four tracks. / First, we start with building ~~the best~~ ^{better and} possible schools for today. Second, we want to ~~reinvent the~~ ^{create a new} American school of tomorrow. Third, we've got to build a

~~consensus that life-long learning is a hallmark of Am. education. This~~ ^{consensus that education doesn't end when your high school days} ~~are over: young and old, we must become a nation of students.~~ ^{are over: young and old, we must become a nation of students.} (Porter)

Fourth, we must focus beyond the four walls of the classroom -- and cultivate communities where learning can -- and will -- happen. //

I'm here today to celebrate your choice to become students again. ~~You all prove that you never get too old to learn -- or~~ ^(D²) ~~to return to school.~~ Each one of you made the choice to take on ~~tremendous odds and to withstand cold indifference: You found~~ ^{the and find (D²)} your way back to school. -- and you ~~now~~ ^{you give the (D²)} move forward in life. //

We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

* No substantive changes - I think the original sounds better, and is more conversational. -TS

Education Insert (page 2):

Insert A

We're working with the Governors, education and business leaders, and many others to challenge each community in the nation to develop its own strategy to reach the education goals. It's a national crusade to improve our schools community-by-community and I hope all of you will join right in.

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if
when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost
 hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But **one door never
 closes.** You can always return to school.

Ed. confirmed for research
 Yes to D² version
 → One Study
 Some studies show that almost half of all students who drop
 out return to the classroom within 4 years. In between, they
 learn the hard way that the world ^{of work} has ^{to offer} little mercy for those who (OMB)
 don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs -- and the
 promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

Programs like this one offer a way back to ^{learning} school -- and a
 way up in the world. In a world of ^{too many} dashed hopes and dead-ends, ✓ (good)
 night schools like Groves can open doors to a better future. // ✓ (good)

The diploma you receive today tells the world that you have
 done more than meet the prescribed state requirements. You've
 returned to the classroom, you've cracked the books, you've
 stayed up late studying and learning -- and you've made the
 passing grade. This diploma tells the world of your self-
discipline and drive -- and it testifies more eloquently than
 anyone ever can to the power of your will -- and your dreams. ✓ (good)

Many of you have travelled a tough road to get here. //
 We've heard today from Vicki Eastburn and Bill Gibbs: how Vicki
 came here to get a good education -- and how her husband and
 children taught her the true value of family. // We heard how
 Bill dropped out before most of today's graduates were even born

-- how he came back to school nearly 30 years, six kids and one heart attack later [[and no, there's no link between the last two]] -- Bill came back to finish that degree. // But the best thing about Bill's story is not what he's **managed to do**, but **where he's going from here**: he's won a scholarship to study at Delaware Technical and Community College. //

Each one of you has a story. Consider Kathy Tucker. ^{Thirteen}~~13~~ (OMB) years ago, Kathy got married. She went to work. She had a child -- and she left school. Kathy promised herself she'd come back to finish high school when her own son started kindergarten. It took a little longer, but she kept that promise. Today Kathy collects her diploma -- and she shows her three kids just what happens when you set a goal and refuse to let circumstance stand in your way. She is a living portrait in self-determination: in what it means to want an education so much that you'll work for it, you'll sacrifice ^{for} it -- and you'll get it. // (OMB)

Finally, let me share a story about Rosemary Everton. Rosemary does not belong to today's class -- she graduated with the Groves Class of '72. But her story ought to give you a glimpse of possibilities to come.

Today, while you look back with quiet pride on all you've done to get here, ^{Rosemary's story lets you}~~you should know~~ that the doors you've opened ^(OMB) may lead to a destiny even you cannot imagine. //

Rosemary Everton got married and dropped out at the age of 15, even before she got to high school. At 16, with a baby and a full time job, she decided to go back to school. For two years,

she took classes at Grove, four nights a week. She cared for a baby, held down a job, built a sturdy marriage -- and she got her degree. //

Rosemary says: "To this day, I still do not know how I did it. (But) I do know that receiving a high school diploma this way, I felt that there was nothing I could not do. This is what kept me going when I felt there was no way I could do everything at once. Because, I had already done everything at once."

Rosemary Everton worked hard to make ends meet, to raise a family, and graduate from Groves. / Today, she and her husband own their own company, and they employ more than 200 people. // Rosemary has this to say about what Groves taught her: "(I) learned math, English and history -- but something more important. I learned that there is nothing I can't do with patience and perseverance." //

Sometimes you have to know what you want to explore how great you can be. For Rosemary, today's success began with a small but sensible dream: to get the diploma. You will have to decide what lies over your own horizon. You already have taken the first, great step. As Rosemary said, there's nothing you can't do.

Everyone here today has made it to this place with the help and encouragement of others: parents who gave up a few evenings a week to babysit. Husbands or wives who did a few extra chores to let you go to class. Even children who worked extra hard to keep quiet around the house, so you could study for that big test. //

Today your family and friends share your joy and the pride you quite rightly feel. //

But today, you stand at center stage. You made it through school -- for one reason, and one reason alone: because you came back. When it could have been easy to lean on excuses or sink into bitterness -- you decided to hold yourselves responsible for your future. You made demands on yourself. // You made it your mission to learn. X

Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. // Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

#

Dan -

- 1) Perhaps a reference to how these newly accredited individuals can better help their own kids get an education.
- 2) Tomorrow I'll be talking to some other extraordinary Americans on the South Lawn about the challenges we face in America. Honor to have you join us - you're just the kind of people who can help lead us into the next American century.

(D²)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 06/06/91ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:00 p.m. Friday 06/07SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY/SEAFORD, DE
(06/06 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
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GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 1:00 p.m. on Friday, 06/07, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

Late comments from Education

RESPONSE:

Mr. H

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if
when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost
hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But one door never
closes. You can always return to school.

Ed. confirmed for research. 46% of the non-grad class 182 have earned their GED's.
~~Some studies~~ ^{One study} show that almost half of all students who drop
out return to the classroom within 4 years. In between, they
learn the hard way that the world has little mercy for those who
don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs -- and the
promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

Programs like this one offer a way back to school -- and a
way up in the world. In a world of dashed hopes and dead-ends,
night schools like Groves can open doors to a better future. //

The diploma you receive today tells the world that you have
done more than meet the prescribed state requirements. You've
returned to the classroom, you've cracked the books, you've
stayed up late studying and learning -- and you've made the
passing grade. This diploma tells the world of your self-
discipline and drive -- and it testifies more eloquently than
anyone ever can to the power of your will -- and your dreams.

Many of you have travelled a tough road to get here. //
We've heard today from Vicki Eastburn and Bill Gibbs: how Vicki
came here to get a good education -- and how her husband and
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I'm here today to celebrate your choice to become students again. You all prove that you never get too old to learn -- or to return to school. Each one of you made the choice to take on tremendous odds and to withstand cold indifference: You found your way back to school -- and you now move forward in life. //

We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

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RESPONSE:

Oh
DS

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Grossman
June 6, 1991
7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

91 JUN -6 PM 9:14

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

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I remember when the teacher would want a note whenever you missed a day of school. Today, I understand a few of you could have used a note for your employers explaining why you'd be absent from work. // I can't write notes for you -- but I can thank all the employers out there for giving you the day off.

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We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

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Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. // Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 6, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Night School Graduation
Ceremony

This is a strong set of remarks. We have noted a few suggested changes on the attached draft.

In addition, we recommend deleting the second paragraph on page one. With our continued emphasis on rigor and excellence, it might not be appropriate for the President to make light of a shorter school year.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we may help in any other way.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

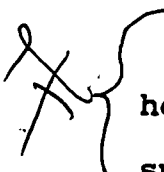
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I'm here today to celebrate your choice to become students again. You all prove that you never get too old to learn -- or to return to school. Each one of you made the choice to take on tremendous odds and to withstand cold indifference: You found your way back to school -- and you now move forward in life. //

We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if
when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But one door never closes. You can always return to school.

Some studies show that almost half of all students who drop out return to the classroom within 4 years. In between, they learn the hard way that the world has little mercy for those who don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs -- and the promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

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-- how he came back to school nearly 30 years, six kids and one heart attack later [[and no, there's no link between the last two]] -- Bill came back to finish that degree. // But the best thing about Bill's story is not what he's managed to do, but where he's going from here: he's won a scholarship to study at Delaware Technical and Community College. //

Each one of you has a story. Consider Kathy Tucker. 13 years ago, Kathy got married. She went to work. She had a child -- and she left school. Kathy promised herself she'd come back to finish high school when her own son started kindergarten. It took a little longer, but she kept that promise. Today Kathy collects her diploma -- and she shows her three kids just what happens when you set a goal and refuse to let circumstance stand in your way. She is a living portrait in self-determination: in what it means to want an education so much that you'll work for it, you'll sacrifice it -- and you'll get it. //

Finally, let me share a story about Rosemary Everton. Rosemary does not belong to today's class -- she graduated with the Groves Class of '72. But her story ought to give you a glimpse of possibilities to come.

Today, while you look back with quiet pride on all you've done to get here, you should know that the doors you've opened may lead to a destiny even you cannot imagine. //

Rosemary Everton got married and dropped out at the age of 15, even before she got to high school. At 16, with a baby and a full time job, she decided to go back to school. For two years,

she took classes at Grove, four nights a week. She cared for a baby, held down a job, built a sturdy marriage -- and she got her degree. //

Rosemary says: "To this day, I still do not know how I did it. (But) I do know that receiving a high school diploma this way, I felt that there was nothing I could not do. This is what kept me going when I felt there was no way I could do everything at once. Because, I had already done everything at once."

Rosemary Everton worked hard to make ends meet, to raise a family, and graduate from Groves. / Today, she and her husband own their own company, and they employ more than 200 people. // Rosemary has this to say about what Groves taught her: "(I) learned math, English and history -- but something more important. I learned that there is nothing I can't do with patience and perseverance." //

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Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this
opportunity to share this special day. // Congratulations to
all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 06/06/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:00 p.m. Friday 06/07

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY/SEAFORD, DE
(06/06 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☐	PETERSMEYER	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	SMITH	☒	☐
BROMLEY	☐	☐	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SNOW	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒		☐	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 1:00 p.m. on Friday, 06/07, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Home
Suggestion
WJ

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Grossman
June 6, 1991
7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

91 JUN -6 PM 9:14

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

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Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. // Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

#

your justly kind
of people who can help lead
us into the next
American century.

Den- ① perhaps a reference
to how these newly accredited
individuals can better help their
own kids get an education

② Tomorrow I'll be talking
to some other extraordinary American
for the South Lawn about
the challenges we face in
America. Honor to have
you join us

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 JUN 7 11:01

June 7, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: NELSON LUND 
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Night School Graduation
Ceremony

At the request of Phillip D. Brady, Counsel's office has reviewed the captioned remarks. We have no legal objections.

We appreciate the opportunity to review these remarks.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 JUN 7 4:2:49

DATE: 06/06/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:00 p.m. Friday 06/07

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY/SEAFORD, DE
(06/06 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
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DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
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CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SNOW	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒		☐	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

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Please forward any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 1:00 p.m. on Friday, 06/07, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

See comments

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Grossman
June 6, 1991
7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

91 JUN -6 PM 9:14

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

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Finally, let me congratulate today's graduates, their friends and families. I appreciate your being here -- and I understand it wasn't easy. After all, when you go to night school, you can't always make it to a graduation during the day. //

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The night school at Groves High School is unique -- the only program of its kind in the country: a night school fully-accredited to grant a regular high school diploma. //

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We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if
when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But **one door never closes.** You can always return to school.

Some studies show that almost **half** of all students who drop out **return to the classroom within 4 years.** In between, they learn the hard way that the world ^{has little} ~~has~~ ^{no work} ~~mercy~~ ^{to offer} for those who don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs -- and the promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

Sally
X5178

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Sometimes you have to know what you want to explore how great you can be. For Rosemary, today's success began with a small but sensible dream: to get the diploma. You will have to decide what lies over your own horizon. You already have taken the first, great step. As Rosemary said, there's nothing you can't do.

Everyone here today has made it to this place with the help and encouragement of others: parents who gave up a few evenings a week to babysit. Husbands or wives who did a few extra chores to let you go to class. Even children who worked extra hard to keep quiet around the house, so you could study for that big test. //

Today your family and friends share your joy and the pride you quite rightly feel. //

But today, you stand at center stage. You made it through school --- for one reason, and one reason alone: because you came back. When it could have been easy to lean on excuses or sink into bitterness -- you decided to hold yourselves responsible for your future. You made demands on yourself. // You made it your mission to learn.

Once again, my thanks for this warm welcome, and for this opportunity to share this special day. // Congratulations to all of you. Good luck -- and may God bless the United States of America.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 06/06/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1:00 p.m. Friday 06/07SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY/SEAFORD, DE
(06/06 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE <i>N/C</i>	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☐	PETERSMEYER	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH <i>N/C</i>	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	SMITH <i>N/C</i>	☒	☐
BROMLEY	☐	☐	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SNOW	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒		☐	☐
GRAY <i>Wdl 280p N/C</i>	☒	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 1:00 p.m. on Friday, 06/07, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Grossman
June 6, 1991
7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

91 JUN -6 PM 9:14

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIGHT SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY
SEAFORD, DELAWARE
JUNE 11, 1991
12:30 PM

Thank you, Governor Castle, for those kind words -- and thanks to all of you for this warm welcome. {I'm especially pleased today to be here with our very able Secretary of Education, Lamar Alexander.} I know every member of the Groves High Class of '91 would want me to recognize the dedication and deep commitment of your Principal, Wayne Meluney. //

I realize the students at Seaford High are happy to see me here today. Because we had to borrow the auditorium, their summer started a day early. //

Finally, let me congratulate today's graduates, their friends and families. I appreciate your being here -- and I understand it wasn't easy. After all, when you go to night school, you can't always make it to a graduation during the day. //

I remember when the teacher would want a note whenever you missed a day of school. Today, I understand a few of you could have used a note for your employers explaining why you'd be absent from work. // I can't write notes for you -- but I can thank all the employers out there for giving you the day off.

The night school at Groves High School is unique -- the only program of its kind in the country: a night school fully-accredited to grant a regular high school diploma. //

This should teach something to all of us who care about American education. Groves provides a shining example of the kind of innovative approach to education I have in mind when I challenge communities all across this country to create the New American School. //

Many of you may know that back in April, we unveiled a new National Education Strategy -- America 2000 -- to help our schools and students reach the six ambitious education goals we've set for the year 2000. That strategy moves toward the future on four tracks. / First, we start with building the best possible schools for today. Second, we want to reinvent the American school of tomorrow. Third, we've got to build a consensus that education doesn't end when your high school days are over: young and old, we must become a nation of students. Fourth, we must focus beyond the four walls of the classroom -- and cultivate communities where learning can -- and will -- happen. //

I'm here today to celebrate your choice to become students again. You all prove that you never get too old to learn -- or to return to school. Each one of you made the choice to take on tremendous odds and to withstand cold indifference: You found your way back to school -- and you now move forward in life. //

We're doing a better job getting the message out that our young people should stay in school. // But we sometimes forget to keep reaching out to those who don't stay in school. Too

often -- without intending to -- we as a society act almost as if when you drop out -- you drop off the end of the earth. //

That's just not true -- and you prove it. //

You know first-hand that when you drop out, you can almost hear the doors to opportunity slamming shut. But one door never closes. You can always return to school.

Some studies show that almost half of all students who drop out return to the classroom within 4 years. In between, they learn the hard way that the world has little mercy for those who don't have diplomas. Most of the time, the good jobs -- and the promotions -- go to people with the degree. //

Programs like this one offer a way back to school -- and a way up in the world. In a world of dashed hopes and dead-ends, night schools like Groves can open doors to a better future. //

The diploma you receive today tells the world that you have done more than meet the prescribed state requirements. You've returned to the classroom, you've cracked the books, you've stayed up late studying and learning -- and you've made the passing grade. This diploma tells the world of your self-discipline and drive -- and it testifies more eloquently than anyone ever can to the power of your will -- and your dreams.

Many of you have travelled a tough road to get here. //

We've heard today from Vicki Eastburn and Bill Gibbs: how Vicki came here to get a good education -- and how her husband and children taught her the true value of family. //

We heard how Bill dropped out before most of today's graduates were even born

-- how he came back to school nearly 30 years, six kids and one heart attack later [[and no, there's no link between the last two]] -- Bill came back to finish that degree. // But the best thing about Bill's story is not what he's managed to do, but where he's going from here: he's won a scholarship to study at Delaware Technical and Community College. //

Each one of you has a story. Consider Kathy Tucker. 13 years ago, Kathy got married. She went to work. She had a child -- and she left school. Kathy promised herself she'd come back to finish high school when her own son started kindergarten. It took a little longer, but she kept that promise. Today Kathy collects her diploma -- and she shows her three kids just what happens when you set a goal and refuse to let circumstance stand in your way. She is a living portrait in self-determination: in what it means to want an education so much that you'll work for it, you'll sacrifice it -- and you'll get it. //

Finally, let me share a story about Rosemary Everton. Rosemary does not belong to today's class -- she graduated with the Groves Class of '72. But her story ought to give you a glimpse of possibilities to come.

Today, while you look back with quiet pride on all you've done to get here, you should know that the doors you've opened may lead to a destiny even you cannot imagine. //

Rosemary Everton got married and dropped out at the age of 15, even before she got to high school. At 16, with a baby and a full time job, she decided to go back to school. For two years,

she took classes at Grove, four nights a week. She cared for a baby, held down a job, built a sturdy marriage -- and she got her degree. //

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	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
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DEMAREST	☒	☐	SNOW	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒		☐	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
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no comment

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Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Grossman
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7:00 pm
[NIGHT]

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