

Congratulations to the Class of 2019

On Sunday, June 2, more than 1,400 family members, friends and staff attended the graduation celebration for the Class of 2019. Congratulations to the 130 students that graduated from Edgerton High School. We are proud of your accomplishments in the classroom, in extra curricular activities, and your service throughout the community. I am confident each of you will be successful in your future endeavors. Below is the commencement address I shared on Sunday. Congratulations Class of 2019!

Dr. Pauli's Commencement Address to the Class of 2019

Good afternoon parents, grandparents, family members, friends, distinguished guests, and Class of 2019. On behalf of the Edgerton School District Board of Education, the administrative team, and entire staff I would like to welcome you to today's celebration in which we recognize the successful completion of a high school diploma for the class of 2019. Congratulations!

My message today comes from a book written by Robert Fulghum titled: *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. I chose this piece because of its wisdom, insight and advice for a healthy balanced life.

Fulghum wrote:

Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do, and how to be-- I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox at recess.

These are the things I learned:

- Share everything.
- Play fair.
- Don't hit people.
- Put things back where you found them.
- Clean up your own mess.
- Don't take things that aren't yours.
- Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.
- Wash your hands before you eat.
- Flush.
- Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.
- Live a balanced life - learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.
- Take a nap every afternoon.
- When you go out in the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together.
- Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup: the roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

- And then remember one of the first words you learned to read - the biggest word of all - LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere in those words. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and equality and sane living.

Take any one of those items and extrapolate it into sophisticated adult terms and apply it to your family life or your work or government or your world and it holds true and clear and firm. Think what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out in the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

Class of 2019, I wish you the best of luck in whatever path you choose.