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Remarks to the Ceremony of Achievement

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Remarks to the Ceremony of Achievement
Dardanelle High School
Dardanelle, Arkansas

Randall D. Wight
May 14, 2013

Where does Time go? Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.¹ It seems like only yesterday that a different generation walked these hallowed halls trying to avoid the banana peels of young adulthood.

Principal Lawrence, esteemed faculty and staff, diligent school board, beloved friends and family, and all who support and encourage Dardanelle High School: Thank you for remembering past generations who call this great institution home, and thank you for your continued investment in the lives of students who will one day call DHS home.

Students, especially the class of 2013, congratulations on your many achievements. Savor these moments.

As you move forward, make time, patience, and planning your allies. Haste, impulsiveness, and inattention to strategic goals leave you vulnerable to other people's imprisoning agendas. Chart your own course.

Remember also that sweet smiles and good intentions alone produce neither clarity of thought nor sustained inner satisfaction. Hard work, patience, and planning are Time's favored traveling companions. Chart your own course.

Be resilient. Cultivate curiosity. Practice kindness. "Love well, and be courageous."²

Where does Time go? It goes where you direct planning, patience, hard work—or it dissipates into dissatisfaction and regret. Choose wisely, savor your moments, watch out for banana peels, and enjoy every minute.

Thank you.

1. Often mistakenly attributed to Groucho Marx; more likely computer scientist Anthony G. Oettinger.

2. Anthony Grayling.