

The Future?

Libby Meier

It is also hard to make a speech about the future, because I have never been there and have no way of knowing what will happen. But whatever does happen, I am fairly certain that we will be called upon to identify the relevant points or main argument of a long piece of writing, devise our own solutions for problems we have not seen before, construct hypotheses and change them in the face of new evidence, write clearly for short paragraphs and many-page documents, and form good working relations with whomever the situation requires. I also believe that we will be able to complete these tasks because MCDS has prepared us to: not by going out of its way to teach abstract concepts such as critical thinking and group dynamics, but just by presenting its rigorous curriculum in a challenging but supportive manner; in other words, by being itself. MCDS has taught us many fascinating things, but what we will remember in twenty years will not be the small facts, but the habits of thought and ways of working that we have developed here and will use in our future education and beyond.

To close, I would like to say a few words in Latin, a tradition started with the first graduating class at MCDS and which I hope can be continued in the future.

Translated from Latin

At MCDS, we were taught to do math, to read and write, to speak foreign languages, to play music and create art, but the greatest thing we learned was to think. In the future, we will do many things, but we will always use this way of thinking to complete them. We give thanks to everyone who has taught us and helped us to where we are now.