

## **CHRISTOPHER PAPPAS**

**Good morning friends, family, teachers, administrators, and staff. On behalf of the Delran High School Class of 2020, thank you all for being here to witness the pinnacle of our young adult lives. My fellow classmates, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you to congratulate each and every one of you on this tremendous accomplishment. It feels as though it were yesterday that we were stepping into Delran High School for the very first time. The Friday night football games, trips to the school store, dressing up for Spirit Week, and deli runs after school all seemed like everyday things, but it's crazy to think that those days have come to a close. Over the course of our time here at Delran, we have grown so much in so many ways. In every aspect of our time at Delran High School, we've left our mark. Each and every Homecoming brought so many unforgettable memories and experiences even if we didn't come out on top. Our performances in athletics brought us many victories. Our dedication to academics in the classroom demonstrated our outstanding work ethic. All the hard work has certainly paid off, and will open the door to many opportunities in the future. From the moment we all came together for the first time, it was clear that we were very unique. We've grown closer as a class and will leave behind a legacy like no other. In the face of adversity, we all stood together to become leaders for our community. We persevered through unprecedented challenges and were forced to overcome obstacles that were unheard of. I know it was hard to leave behind the joy and happiness of Disney and return to the shock of a global pandemic. It was difficult to accept that our senior year was brought to an end a little earlier than we had expected; however, we would not be brought down by**

these unprecedented times. These past few months haven't been easy, but have only made us stronger. We have so much to be thankful for and proud of, including all that we've achieved. Take pride in being a part of this class and this family; however, do not forget about those who helped and supported us along the way when reflecting back on your time here at Delran. To all the teachers, administrators, and coaches who have guided us all these years, as well as in the past few months, we thank you for everything that you do. Your passion and caring spirit as educators have allowed us to push past our limits and take to new heights in every facet of our lives. To our parents and family members, we thank you for love and compassion. You raised us well, and we are forever grateful for the things you do each and every day. To our amazing class advisors, Mrs. Schmidt and Mr. Niemczak, we could have never done it without you. The countless sacrifices you both made to make our time at Delran is unmeasurable. You were there for us when we needed you the most, and you believed in us since the beginning of our high school careers. To everyone who has helped us along the way, thank you! As we leave Delran High School and begin the next chapter of our lives, we remember you all and hope to make you proud. I know that this wasn't the way you all envisioned your senior year. Although our time was cut short, we share a very special bond that no one can take away from us. Despite all the hardships we have encountered in the past few months, the future is bright for the Class of 2020. No matter what path you choose to pursue in life, I know that you all will do great things. Congratulations 2020, and I wish you the best in your years after Delran. Good luck, and thank you for allowing me to be a part of this family.