



From the Desk of Mayor Donny Schmit

Mayoral Address Regarding Fox Lake Area School Graduations

We are experiencing unprecedented times. Things that once were staples of our everyday lives have suddenly been restricted and cancelled. I admire the strength of the Fox Lake community during these difficult times and I appreciate the many sacrifices our residents and business owners have had to make over these last few months.

While this is a difficult time, there are many causes for celebration, in particular, the accomplishments of many Fox Lake area youth. The month of May hosts graduations for our local area schools. Fox Lake has students in, and is home to and several great schools we are proud of: Lotus Elementary, Stanton Middle, Big Hollow Middle, Elementary, and Primary, Gavin Middle and Elementary, St. Bede's Middle and Elementary, and Grant High School which is cause for community-wide celebration.

You have missed out on one of the moments you all worked very hard for - but remember that it is only a moment in time. Your parents, relatives, and friends are proud of your accomplishments. A one hour ceremony and a party cannot diminish your achievement. At your reunions, you will certainly have some unique experiences to share.

I always say, one of our communities' greatest strengths is our schools. However, during this time I have come to understand it is not just our schools that make our community great, but the individual students that attend our schools. The ability for our area students to overcome great adversity during this pandemic has inspired me. They have had their daily lives as they know it uprooted and have still managed to succeed against all odds.

To all our graduating students – thank you for your continued dedication to your studies, adaptability, and resiliency throughout these last few months. These skills will serve you well in your future endeavors, and I have no doubt you will continue to make Fox Lake proud.

For those students who may be moving onto cities outside of Fox Lake, please remember the importance of community is not the size of your potential new home, but the people who make up the community. Fox Lake will always be here to welcome you back with open arms.

Congratulations graduates, Fox Lake is proud of your accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Donny Schmit
Mayor, Village of Fox Lake