

My Hope In You and Gratitude for You - The SSCS Class of 2023



To the SSCS Class of 2023, a special dedication,
Once my students, now graduates, a transformation.
Gracie, Luke, Cameron, Jake, and Dylan,
Kyle, Tristan, Alicia, Rachel, and Brenden.
Thomas, Tyler, Jaidyn, Ruby, and Emma all so bright,
Rhiannon, Kaily, Giardino, Westerman, I marvel at your shining light.
Jennifer and Brady, I hold you each so dear,
This poem's for you, as your journey I reflect on and revere.

For most of you, as seventh graders we embarked on a literacy quest,
In English class, our bond grew and stood the test.
But time flew by, and seasons changed their course,
I became your principal, guiding you, but you were the fuel - the force.
And through the years, you taught me how to grow,
To loosen up, to make changes, to create the conditions for your unique spirits to show.

1. Gracie, your resilience and strength are profound,
Through unfathomable challenges, you never stayed down.
2. Luke, your quiet strength and infectious kindness made our school a better place,
A competitive spirit with a gentle soul, you inspired smiles with grace.
3. Cameron, your commitment to a goal finally did shine through,
A lesson in perseverance, I learned from you.
4. Jake, your sense of humor does shine bright and clear,
You have become a reminder to embrace ironies, uncertainties and difficulties without fear.
5. Dylan, your transformation sparked fires in our hearts and smiles in our halls,
Inspirational-pain helped you break down walls.
6. Kyle, though you hold back a smile with incredible might,
You cannot hide the tenacity and brightness of your quiet light.
7. Tristen, your determination is a beacon no darkness can hide
You showed us the power and passion of all you hold inside.
8. Alicia, your reserved but burning competitive spirit can be held in a disguise,
You taught us that what is true beyond the eye is always a wonderful surprise.
9. Rachel your creativity painted images of soccer goals in vibrant hues,
While you taught all of us to see the world through an individual's views.

10. Brenden, your dedication to smiling service does stand tall,
A guiding light, inspiring us to give our all.

11. Thomas, your subtle humor and relentless-spirit brought smiles to our days,
A reminder to find joy in life in multiple ways.

12. Tyler, despite challenges your friendship and support of others never waned,
You taught me that through laughter, fantastic connections can be gained.

13. Jaidyn, your courage in facing challenges head-on,
Inspired me to be brave when doubts are strong.

14. Ruby, your passion and skills bloomed like a flower,
You taught me the importance of seizing every hour.

15. Emma, your wisdom and worries exceed your tender years,
A mentor you became to others, in working through erasing your own doubts and fears.

16. Rhiannon, your passion for justice fuels a flame,
You taught me to fight for what's right with a steady aim.

17. Kaily your resilience showed strength in unspeakable adversity,
A lesson of courage, engraved in my memory.

18. Giardino, your kindness embraced every soul,
A lesson in compassion, making our community, our school and your class whole.

19. Westerman, your curiosity, kindness and work pushed boundaries anew,
You inspired me to seek answers with passion, too.

20. Jennifer your passion for learning and power over quiet pain, a guiding light,
Your thirst for knowledge and kindness ignites the darkest night.

21. Brady, your ambition has fueled dreams beyond measure,
You showed me the power of goals and their treasure.

To the Class of 2023, a tapestry of memories we share,
Lessons learned, friendships formed, beyond compare.
You taught me to smile, to make necessary changes,
To work hard and persevere, even through life's ranges.
Passion you ignited, in my heart it will forever burn,
Congratulations, graduates, it's now your turn!

With Love, Mr. Yorke