

Marie Murphy graduates contemplate future endeavors

SUBMITTED BY MARIE MURPHY SCHOOL

Marie Murphy wished the class of 2017 farewell as they embark on their next adventure in education — high school — earlier this month. The room was full of parents and students celebrating nine years at Avoca School District 37. Many of the students were classmates since kindergarten. Next year, 91 students will be moving on to New Trier High School or other local schools.

Emilia McDougal, student council officer, spoke to the graduating class and recounted the important highlights and influences during her time at Avoca. McDougal recalled occasions were the instructional staff at Avoca went



Marie Murphy School in Wilmette graduated 91 students during a special ceremony earlier this month. PHOTO SUBMITTED

beyond expectations to deliver the best education to students and how they encouraged students to do the same. This class of students demonstrated this through their athletic, academic, arts and philanthropic achievements.

"High school is where we need to take risks or else we will be waiting forever," McDougal said. "Marie Murphy is only the beginning and has set us up for what is to come, teach-

ing us to give more than anyone is expecting of us."

Graduates Katia Chiamapas and Rianne Wagner delivered personal reflections of their time at Avoca. They spoke of the way they grew to overcome obstacles and the special moments that made significant impacts on their lives.

Principal Matthew Palcer spoke about the kind spirit of the class and their capacity for doing the right thing for themselves and

others. The Avoca Board of Education President, Rick Zelinsky, addressed the students exemplary achievement and the legacy they will leave at Marie Murphy. Avoca School District 37 Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Jauch, encouraged the group to go farther together by continuing to seek, value, appreciate and take advantage of all of the benefits they can experience from their diversity.

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breaking in and not hot-wiring," he said. "They don't have to because people are leaving the keys in their cars."

Reporting by Katie Copenhaver, Freelance Reporter. Full story at WinnetkaCurrent.com.

THE NORTHBROOK TOWER Another gymnastics academy proposed for Raymond Drive space

The first step in bringing a gymnastics facility back to 1845 Raymond Drive was taken on June 20 when the Northbrook Plan Commission directed its staff to draw up a resolution to recommend the application of the American Academy of Gymnastics.

Gymnastics at that location dates back to 1985,

but earlier this year, the Northbrook Gymnastics Training Center shut down, leaving the 11,000-square-foot facility in a 22,000-square-foot building vacant.

The plans of American Academy of Gymnastics owner Kurtis Waller call for classes to be held from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. from Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. on Friday and from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday and for the facility to be available for parties from 2:30 p.m.-7:15 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m.-7:15 p.m. on Sunday.

The next step is obtaining approval of the resolution at the next Plan Commission meeting on July 18.

Reporting by Neil Milbert, Freelance Reporter. Full story at NorthbrookTower.com.



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