

THE BANNER

June 2008

North Brunswick Township High School
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

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The Usual Suspects



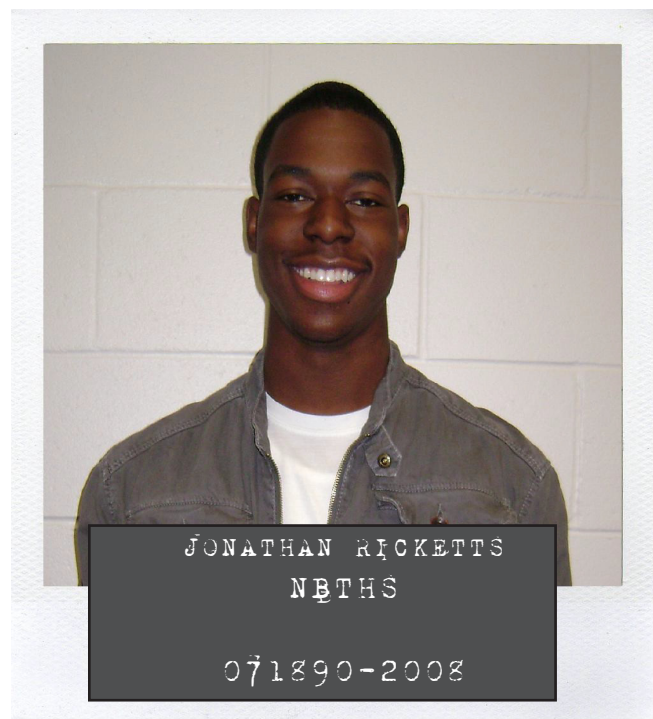
MOHIT MOONDRA
DOB: November 9, 1990
College: Carnegie Mellon University
Area of Interest: Applied Mathematics
Guilty of: Valedictorian

Attending Carnegie Mellon University in the fall to study Applied Mathematics, Mohit Moondra will deeply miss all his cherished memories at NBTHS. From academics to athletics, Mohit has contributed to several sports teams as well as accolades. "My favorite subject was math, and my favorite class was definitely AP Lunch," he chuckled. Mohit has been a member and co-captain of the varsity cross country and swimming team for four years at NBTHS. "I'm really proud to be part of such accomplished teams, I'll never forget what great times I've had," said Mohit. Leaving a mark on this school, Mohit advises all the underclassmen to continue to work hard and stop pulling the fire alarms. In his spare time, Mohit likes to run, swim, and dance. You can usually find him pop, lock, and dropping it wherever he walks.



ENID SUN
DOB: October 10, 1990
College: Boston University
Area of Interest: Medicine
Guilty of: Salutatorian

Enid Sun, the class salutatorian, has faced the rigors of high school along with a talented pool of students. "I'm honored to be a part of such a talented class and I'm very excited for everyone." Enid is active around the school; she's the Senior Class Treasurer in the Ricketts Administration and takes part in Alchemists, French Club, National Honor Society, and National Arts Honor Society. She enjoys art, singing, and ballet. She will be attending an accelerated program at Boston University's Seven-Year Liberal Arts/New Jersey Medical Education Program in the fall. Despite this lofty achievement, it is clear she won't forget her roots. "I'm extremely proud of the class of 2008 for making it this far; I hope everyone is excited for the next few years of their lives with college and eventually with any plans after school."



JONATHAN RICKETTS
DOB: July 18, 1990
College: Columbia University
Area of Interest: Engineering
Guilty of: Class President

Jonathan Ricketts is seldom at a loss for words. "It was a pleasure to lead such a talented class," he said. The graduating Class President's political career may not be over after graduation; he was voted as the senior who is most likely to run for president. Such an honor could not be bestowed without at least a modicum of public speaking ability, and Jonathan will get to showcase his talents on June 19th. "I look forward to giving a speech at graduation," he said excitedly. Jonathan showed his leadership ability through other means. He was a captain of the undefeated varsity soccer team this year, and is a member of the National Honor Society. The "wunderkind" can't help but be energized for the bright future ahead of him and his peers. "We're moving on to an illustrious part of our lives," he said. Jonathan is going to Columbia University in the fall to study engineering.



MATTHEW CONNOLLY
DOB: May 22, 1990
College: Northwestern University
Area of Interest: Journalism
Guilty of: Senior Speaker

Matthew Connolly is best known as the columnist and editor-in-chief of this very newspaper. He will further his writing pursuits at the Medill School of Journalism of Northwestern University. He is active outside of the newspaper; Matt is a National Merit Scholar, Co-President of National Honor Society with Valedictorian Mohit Moondra, and was Co-Captain of the Raider golf team this past season. Outside of school, he ran the New Jersey high school campaign for Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama. "I'm really interested in politics," he says. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, listening to music, and playing ultimate Frisbee. Though he is Senior Speaker, Matt won't tell anyone about the contents of his upcoming speech. "It's going to be a surprise," he says. "You'll have to wait until graduation to hear it."

Michael Young

Students, faculty, family and friends, where do I begin when speaking of the Class of 2008? It is hard to believe that we are all here right now, sitting here in our graduations gowns and caps ready to say goodbye to that fine establishment that we call high school and part ways to commence the best four years of our life. We have been together since our naïve freshman year, and some of us go as far back as first grade and boy do we have some exhilarating memories under our belts. From hour long lockdowns, to power failures, from bomb threats to alleged possession of weaponry and our recent fire drill antics, through it all we have remained strong and stayed together to form the best class that has ever graduated from North Brunswick Township High School. I mean sure, we haven't been very victorious at our seasonal pep rallies, but that's beside the point. From the moment I entered high school, I couldn't wait to get out; I have had the so-called "Senioritis" since about September of freshman year and now here we are. It's hard to believe that every single one of us hungered for this day. A day where we can be embarrassed by our families, take billions of pictures, and sit here in these oversized gowns and silly hats with thousands of eyes on us, but here we are. I think these last few weeks, and maybe even months for some, have probably been the most fun. The only stress I think some of us had in these past few months are what dress to get for prom... well at least I hope only the females stressed about that, but some things are better left unsaid.

I remember the first day of high school, scared not knowing what to expect, dreading the day of freshmen beat down, and most of all, fearing the legends told to us in middle school of the terrifying teachers of the ever so infamous high school. Turns out, they're not so bad after all, but I speak based on experience. Through the lengthy standardized tests, the long research papers, the dreadful books, the SATs, and waiting for the arrival of college acceptance letters, we've once again stayed strong. We made it. From this point on, we will make the decisions that can greatly impact our futures, decided whether or not we will have the big house and the Cadillac Escalade sitting on twenty-four inch rims out in the driveway. As the best class that has ever graduated from NBTHS, we have the potential to be whatever we want to be; we have the potential to be rich and famous; the sky is our limit. Don't ever let anyone tell you that you are not capable of doing what you please. I mean seriously, you're a North Brunswick Township High School graduate; what *can't* we do?

If there was one piece of advice that I could give to my fellow students, it would be this: whatever you do, wherever you end up, don't ever let fear keep you from doing what you want. Live life to the fullest and never let fear stand in the way of your hopes, dreams, or wants because you only live once. Make the best of it. It was best

Let's talk about Barbie. Malibu Edition Barbie to be more precise. What does she mean to you? Quintessential best friend? Perfect daughter? Potential girlfriend? More often than not, we think of Malibu Edition Barbie, complete with her deluxe handbags and designer clothing, as the best of us, what we should strive for in life. That cute, extremely well proportioned plastic doll has come to represent something quite contrary to what we think about it- the plague of consumerism.

Day after day, the world becomes ever more shallow. "Reality" shows about celebrities' prodigal lives and fabricated dramas are all the rage, as is the demand for luxury items and accessories. While genocide rages in Darfur, dictators rule in North Korea and Myanmar, and people starve in war-torn Afghanistan, Americans eagerly anticipate the release of the new iPhone or desperately wait for the new season

of *Flavor of Love*. We are all victims to it and it is human to want to have possessions. There is nothing wrong with wanting to spend your money and treat yourself to the good life; after all, isn't that what America is about, the pursuit of "happiness?" But are you really happy when you have many possessions or when a catfight ensues on Tila Tequila? How do you define happiness and contentment? What is truly important to you?

I think of spending obscene amounts of money on material goods as a way to try to escape life. It's easy to lose yourself and get rid of life's monotony with material wealth,

said by our nation's thirty-second president, Franklin Delano Roosevelt: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Despite the hardships we may face, the outcomes may occur, do not let fear get in the way of what you want, the worst thing that could happen is being left there wondering what could have been, and that is something that can easily be avoided.

Happiness will always be in our reach. Happiness is not necessarily defined by the amount of money you have, or the assets in your possession, but what you make of the life that is given to you, or in poker terms, the hand that is dealt. After years of getting to know all of

my peers, there is not a doubt in my mind that every single one of these kids, or should I say young adults, are capable of being successful, capable of making it through life. There is not a doubt in my mind, not even the slightest bit, that every single one of these kids sitting in front

and above all, it's very convenient. Why take the time and effort to fashion yourself into someone unique when you can just as easily buy material goods to define you? As people in an increasingly vain world, we frequently typecast people depending on what they wear

or have; I know I do. I can't help but draw parallels to *American Psycho*, a novel that showcases a hyperbole of the 1980s and the craze for material goods. In Ellis's classic, society has become vain to the point of people being de-individualized; all of the yuppies in the novel dress exactly the same and look the same, so much so that even before you can finish the first three pages, there are already two instances of mistaken identity. Instead of designer clothes and other luxury items defining us and separating us from other people, it has bound everyone together in *American Psycho* and no one can distinguish one person from another and, as a result of the craze for material

goods, everyone has become lost to the original goal of buying said goods- individualism.

Instead of kowtowing to then trend towards buying more luxe items, let us try to do something completely different and absolutely outrageous; let us define ourselves. Don't let your phone, your clothes, your haircut, or your taste in music tell people who you are. Instead, let your actions define who you are and let those objects merely amplify your personality. Be an individual based on who you are and not what you wear, or, like the yuppies in *American Psycho*, you will lose yourself and the world will lose all sensibility and disintegrate into vanity.

of me, will be successful in life because we were brought up by the best. We owe our success here today to our families who have raised us since birth, to the faculty that molded us to be what we are today, and the friends who were there for us through the most difficult times. Today is only the beginning of the next steps of our lives, only one of the many achievements we will experience throughout our lives.

If senioritis hasn't hit you by now, then let the hitting begin. This is the culmination of our high school careers, yet the commencement as our lives as individuals. From this point on, we decide how our lives run, we create our own destiny, and we are all capable of doing extraordinary things.

The dictionary defines "raider" as someone who takes over something, or someone who seizes control over something. We are the North Brunswick Raiders, we will seize control of whatever life throws at us, and we will take over anything and everything that stands in our way. I would also like to thank the parents, as without them we wouldn't really be sitting here in the first place, and our friends for always being there when we needed them. Thank you all for listening, and I wish the best of luck to all my peers. Congratulations and give it up for the class of 2008!



Patrick Chung



Erin Dunne



Well, we made it. Four years, 720 days, and 5,040 hours later, here we are. We have endured three-hour lockdowns, overzealous turkey hunters, and more pulled fire alarms than you could ever wish for. But today, whether we are holding hands or holding grudges, one thing will always remain true: we are the class of 2008, and no one can take that away from us.

When we first entered the high school four years ago, we were all the typical freshmen; we were all nervous, unsure, and we just wanted to fit in. Some played sports, some joined clubs, and some just hung out with their group of friends. When an outsider looks down upon our class, he or she will see many different types of people: athletes, geniuses, artists, and wallflowers. But it is that mixture of people that make our class what it is: unique. Through all of the differences, we are able to sit together in the amphitheatre, eat lunch together, and help each other, not just in school, but outside of school as well. I bet we could have never imagined that we would have so many friends in different places, from soccer players, members of the science club. The diversity throughout our class brings

out the hidden abilities we did not know we had in us, and we discover and grow from the new people we meet after learning something about ourselves.

We have all entered through the same doors, eaten in the same commons, and played kickball in the same gym. What we were not aware of was the phenomenal and life changing lessons that we would soon learn in the next four years. Now, as we all go our separate ways, we are leaving through the same doors. We are wiser, stronger, better, and have the ability to do and accomplish anything with all of the knowledge we have acquired within the walls of North Brunswick Township High School, whether or not we have acknowledged or understood it. Everyone wearing a cap and gown today will leave this room destined to do something extraordinary, even if they do not know it yet. Good luck with continued success in the future, and may your hats fly as high as your dreams. Congratulations Class of 2008.

I ask you to tell me the difference between life and school. Author Tom Bodell says, "In school you are taught a lesson and then given a test. In life you are given a test that then teaches you a lesson." After today, we will step out into the real world, and all we can hope is that the lessons we have been taught will suffice. Every-

past is unchanging, with each day that passes a new door will open for us. In a way, our future is like those "different ending each time" books that we used to love. At the end of each chapter we are given choices, and with each choice we make, our endings change.

It is said that graduation is just the ending of a

You have to credit Dr. Seuss for knowing what he's talking about. It's time for us to take the lead, and by now we have all the tools we need. We are the ones who pave our own path. Let no one tell you otherwise. It will not be a walk in the park, but we can handle it. So congratulations Class of 2008, our future is wide open.

Nikita Nadkarni

day from now on will be a test; every choice will have a right and wrong answer; but the test will no longer be on paper, nor the answers given to us. For the past four years this school has been what we call "the hard life", with its grueling hours— seven days a week, and twelve months a year. And yes, I know we have had breaks and all, but that just does not fit into the description of a hard life. Now it's time for us to step into the real world, where the hours are unknown, the days a mystery, and the tasks a challenge. It is time for us to face the unknown that is our future.

Starting next fall, all the decisions we have made in the past will be far gone and a whole new set will arise. The who, what, where, when, why, and how will all come rushing back, and we simply have to find a way to answer them. But that is the future, where nothing is for certain. And I think that is the beauty of the future, its uncertainty. You can recreate yourself if you'd like, or just tweak who you are. No one can stop you, and is that not what we've all been waiting for; the ability to do what we want without anything holding us back? None of us knows where we will end up in ten years, or who we will still be friends with. Some of us will be lucky and stay in touch, while others will create new lives for themselves. Yet, despite what happens in our future, the memories of our high school years will remain unchanged by time. And while our

chapter and the opening of the next. No longer will we have buses to taking us to school, or bells to telling us to hurry to class. All we know is what we have learned here, and the people who have made us who we are. Our parents were right, even though we do not admit it. Our past makes us who we are now, and our present decides who we will be in the future. Be proud of what you have done, and be proud of whom you have become. Be as proud of yourself as the people who believe in you are.

And now we're ready, it has taken us about eighteen years, but it is finally time for us to move on. To quote a famous doctor:

You have brains in your head.

You have feet in your shoes.

You can steer yourself,

Any direction you choose.

You're on your own. And you know what you know.

And you are the guy who'll decide where to go.



Vincent Abbruscato West Virginia University	Katherine Bansch Bloomsburg University	Rachel Buffer Mount Ida College	Lamar Coleman
Rania Abdelnaby Middlesex County College	Runyon Barkelew, Jr Rider University	Alexander Buhler-Rose University at Albany	Nicholas Coloprisco St. John's University
Jacque Abercrombie Middlesex County College	Matthew Bassel Rutgers University	Alexis Bush Fashion Institute of Technology	Brandy Cone Middlesex County College
Nada Abu El Soud Middlesex County College	Matthew Beckles Rutgers University	Diana Calderone Middlesex County College	Jessica Cone Middlesex County College
Johanna Acosta Middlesex County College	Ashley Beer Montclair State University	James Campbell United States Navy	Matthew Connolly Northwestern University
Angela Adams	William Belfi Middlesex County College	Olivia Campbell Middlesex County College	Michael Corbin Kean University
Davon Adams Rutgers University	Jennifer Berls Middlesex County College	Vincent Campbell	Victoria Costa Rutgers University
Victoria Adevai Gordon College	Antonio Betances DeVry University	Elizabeth Canfield Middlesex County College	Leanna Cristofulli Rowan University
Khashayar Afshar-Bagheri Middlesex County College	Simer Bhatia The College of New Jersey	Gloricela Carbajal	Jessica Crouch Montclair State University
Kyleigh Airey Middlesex County College	Joel Boakye Middlesex County College	Stephanie Cardoso Middlesex County College	Tynell Crudup
Kunyepa Alley Rutgers University	Brian Bokserman Rutgers University	Ashley Carlino Rutgers University	Bekim Cukovic New Jersey Institute of Technology
Trivone Alston	Paul Bokserman Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences	Lauren Castellucci Cedar Crest College	Karen Cumba
Megan Ambrosy Rutgers University	Christina Borbas University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Ashley Centrella Middlesex County College	Kaitlyn Curran Rutgers University
Benjamin Applebaum Middlesex County College	Hillary Brady University of Rhode Island	Jose Charneco Rutgers University	Brian Curry Rutgers University
Jeffrey Ashamole	Carlton Brathwaite Felician College	Elizabeth Chelli West Chester University	Leslie Cutting Rider University
Kelly Avila Middlesex County College	James Breen	Brandon Chinich Frostburg State University	Erika D'Amato University of Rhode Island
Kristen Axelsen Ithaca College	Jean-Yves Brefo Middlesex County College	Michael Chisholm	Christopher D'Amore
Eric Ayim Kean University	Joshua Brooks Rutgers University	Mohit Chopra Middlesex County College	Travis Daniel Middlesex County College
Sana Baba Middlesex County College	Antoine Brown	Patrick Chung University of Pennsylvania	Quiana Daniels
Afaf Badawy Rider University	Ernest Brown Berkeley College	Nicole Cicio	Jael Davis Seton Hall University
Rafia Baig Rutgers University	Journe Brown Grand Canyon University	Nicole Cirencione Middlesex County College	Yaasmeen Davis Point Park University
Sabeeh Baig John Hopkins University	Melchisedec Brown Middlesex County College	Francisco Cisneros	Elfrida Decker Middlesex County College
Anifer Bakarr Middlesex County College	Pushaun Brown University of Maine	Daphne Clark Rutgers University	Bobby DeLeon Rutgers University
Ashley Balaam Middlesex County College	Symone Brown Grand Canyon University	Devin Clark Rutgers University	Kimberly Delgado
Tugwire T. Bandora Chestnut Hill College	Megan Brush Middlesex County College	Janae Clark Middlesex County College	Cenedra Delk George Mason University
Musa Bangura	Margot Cohen University of Maryland	Najea Claudio Dover Business College	Michael DePalma Middlesex County College
Etonnam Banini University of Delaware		Rahul Dhiman Rutgers University	

Vivek Dhotrekar Rutgers University	Amal Ghannam Middlesex County College	Kaneil Isaacs Middlesex County College	Adam Kondioti Rider University
Carmen Disla Middlesex County College	Pritpal Gill Rutgers University	Eric Isiwele	Rebecca Koo Rutgers University
Michael Dobles Middlesex County College	Edward Gilmore Middlesex County College	Brij Jagirdar Louisiana State University	Christine Koye Monmouth University
Stefanie Donnelly Kean University	Ignacio Gimenez	Paras Jain Rutgers University	Rachel Kruzik Rowan University
Michael Dorrell Middlesex County College	Alex Glasgow Berklee College of Music	Hannah Jakubowski Middlesex County College	Robert Laczi Lincoln Technical Institute
Julia Drosos	Akeem Glover Middlesex County College	Talha Jarral Middlesex County College	Kimberly Laffey Montclair State University
Erin Dunne Franklin & Marshall College	Melissa Goy Middlesex County College	Ryan Jolly	Matthew Lanza Middlesex County College
Shilpa Dutta Rutgers University	Marjorie Griffin Rider University	Tarrell Joseph	Jennifer LaPunta Fashion Institute of Technology
Amanda Echevarria Middlesex County College	Briana Grizont Rutgers University	Mrunal Joshi Middlesex County College	Colleen Larkin William Paterson University
William Edson	Nitish Harid Temple University	Ibrahim Kamara Rutgers University	Letia Latney Bloomfield College
Maureen Eno Kean University	Jasmine Harmon Middlesex County College	Joseph Kang Middlesex County College	Cristina LaVentua School of Visual Arts
Norman Espinet	Alina Hasan Middlesex County College	Ting-Wei Kang Rutgers University	Emily Lavroff Ramapo College
Erika Fabian Rider University	Theodore Haws Middlesex County College	Angela Kasian Mercer County College	Isaac Lee New York University
Nicholas Facchini DeVry University	Jessica Henning Richard Stockton College of New Jersey	Gagan Kaur Middlesex County College	Hannah Letbetter Boston University
Elizabeth Fackelman The College of New Jersey	Jazzlyn Henry	Loveleen Kaur Saint Peter's College	Ibn Leverett Union County College
Ziad Farhat Rutgers University	Toni Heras United States Marine Corp	Supreet Kaur Seton Hall University	John Ryan Lewis Kean University
Daniel Farina West Virginia University	Christian Hiraldo United States Army	Sonia Kaushal Rutgers University	Saba Lodhi Middlesex County College
Kevin Farrell East Brunswick Vocational Technical School	Sara Holz Harris School of Business	Amy Kawal	Jenna Logan Fairleigh Dickinson University
Matthew Fernandez Middlesex County College	Ajahna Hoo Art Institute of Philadelphia	Matthew Keller Rutgers University	Adam Lutchman Rider University
Rachel Fisher Montclair State University	DeAndre Hopes Middlesex County College	Ryan Kent Middlesex County College	Daniel Lyles Middlesex County College
Meagen Fitzpatrick Rutgers University	Yiling Hu Columbia University	Peter Kenny	Joseph Lynch University of the Arts
David Flores Middlesex County College	April Hustik Rutgers University	Eunice Kessie Allegheny College	Evan MacPhee Middlesex County College
Amanda Fois Valley Forge Christian College	Joseph Indelicato	Lyndsey Keyte University of Maryland	Corey Maimone Rider University
Latoya Francis Middlesex County College	Kenneth Ingram	Amna Khalid Middlesex County College	Miguel Malave Middlesex County College
Sevde Gedelec Middlesex County College	Angelo Iovino Middlesex County College	Jeffrey Klisch Middlesex County College	Allison Malone
William Gerr Rutgers University	Iqra Iqbal	Christopher Koliass Bryant University	
	Yasir Iqbal Kean University		

Mega Manchanda Stony Brook State University of NY	Justin Morgan Rutgers University	Angela Pagliaro State University of New York	Darkarys Pierre Bergen Community College
Shobit Manchanda Middlesex County College	John Moroney Rutgers University	Vanessa Paredes Mercer County Community College	Laura Piper Middlesex County College
Salimata Manneh Rutgers University	Jamie Mount Rutgers University	Patricia Passarelli	Christine Pisacka Middlesex County College
Farnaz Mansouri Rutgers University	Iris Munoz Chubb Institute	Abhik Patel Rutgers University	Nicholas Piscetelli Montclair State University
Michelle Marano Rutgers University	Erin Murphy	Ami Patel Rutgers University	Donovan Pitter United States Marine Corp
Allison Maroney Purchase State University of New York	Dewayne Myrick Middlesex County College	Chintan Patel Middlesex County College	Edgar Polanco Middlesex County College
Andres Marquez United States Marine Corp	Fatmata Nabie Bloomfield College	Devang Patel Rutgers University	Keith Powell Middlesex County College
Debra Martinez Middlesex County College	Smadar Nadav Southern Nevada Community College	Dipali Patel Kean University	Troy Powell Rutgers University
Harry Martinez Middlesex County College	Nikita Nadkarni Babson College	Hiran Patel	Amit Prajapati Middlesex County College
Katherine Martinez Berkeley College	Nishit Nandankar Rutgers University	Khushbu Patel Rutgers University	Christian Puntorno DeVry University
Tara Mathews Rider University	Teresa Narvaez Middlesex County College	Kinjal Patel University of the Sciences in Philadelphia	Martice Purvis Penn State University
Anthony Matlock St. Johns University	Danielle Nudelman The College of New Jersey	Meera Patel University of the Sciences in Philadelphia	Dominick Quagliata Middlesex County College
Kristyn Mattei Middlesex County College	Bradley Nussbaum The Richard Stockton College of NJ	Mihir Patel Middlesex County College	Meghan Quint Mercer County Community College
Eric Mazzei Middlesex County College	Jose Ocasio	Pratik Patel Middlesex County College	Mahammed Qureshi Middlesex County College
Dara McCoy Middlesex County College	Ikechukwu Odimegwu Middlesex County College	Ronak Patel	Stephen Rabinowitz Middlesex County College
John McNulty United States Navy	Olufemi Ogunnaike Swarthmore College	Roselin Patel Middlesex County College	Shannon Raciti
Jasmin McPhatter	Temidayo Ogunwale Middlesex County College	Sagar Patel Rutgers University	Ana Ramirez Chubb Institute
Kyle McVay Centenary College	Meghan Olmstead University of California	Shashwat Patel University of Southern California	Brenda Ramirez Middlesex County College
Thomas Melanson Middlesex County College	Amanda Olsen Middlesex County College	Darion Patterson St. John's University	Joseph Ramirez Middlesex County College
Zain Merchant	Jessica Olszuk Middlesex County College	Michelle Paz Berkeley College	Keith Ramirez Middlesex County College
Ashley Molnar Middlesex County College	Ferjo Ombwayo Kean University	Rachel Pearce New Jersey City University	Kevin Ranglall Middlesex County College
Alyza Montalvo Montclair State University	Emmanuel Opong Dabanka Kean University	Tatiana People LaSalle University	Sarah Rauber Kean University
Yuri Moon Rutgers University	Veronica Oropeza Farleigh Dickinson University	Jeffery Peragallo Indiana University	Justin Reager Florida State University
Mohit Moondra Carnegie Mellon University	Kendy Ortez	Akeem Perez	Robert Rein Rutgers University
Christopher Moreschi Montclair State University	Eric Otterbein Rutgers University	George Petrov New York Film Academy	Gissell Reyes Penn State University

Joanna Reyes Middlesex County College	Mileidy Santana Middlesex County College	Robert Swercheck Kean University	Melissa Weinberg Middlesex County College
Nancy Reyes Middlesex County College	Karan Sarna University of the Sciences in Philadelphia	Alexandra Talharim Mount Ida College	Alex Weinstock DeVry University
Jonathan Ricketts Columbia University	Erin Savage Drew University	Racheal Tarantino Middlesex County College	Charles White
Matthew Riggans	Joseph Scala Berklee College of Music	Jordan Telfer	Christina White Middlesex County College
Griselda Rivera Seton Hall University	James Schroeder Lincoln Technical Institute	Deanna Tesi Rutgers University	Sade Williams Middlesex County College
Sharien Rizk Rider University	Natasha Scott Rutgers University	Pat Tesi Middlesex County College	Te'La Williams Howard University
Michael Rizzi Monmouth University	Julianne Selby Penn State University	Kellinah Thomas Middlesex County College	Tiffany Wilson East Brunswick Vocational Technical School
Ariel Robinson	Christine Semple Howard University	Shelly Torre Middlesex County College	Sarah Winjobi Rutgers University
Geoff Roche Drexel University	Darshan Shah Rider University	Sandra Torres Lincoln Tech	Tanya Witlen The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Nicole Rockenstein York College of Pennsylvania	Tejash Shah Rutgers University	Kasie Townsend Middlesex County College	Andrew Wong Ramapo College
Christopher Rodriguez	Chen Shao Lincoln Technical Institute	Elizabeth Tsygan Rider University	Po-Yao Wong-Lin Middlesex County College
Felix Rodriguez Universal Technical Institute	Maroo Shin Felician College	Jaymee Tucker Rutgers University	Caitlin Wood Rutgers University
Adriana Rojas Middlesex County College	Derek Silva	Jitta Tucker Brigham Young University	Cierra Wood Rutgers University
Stephen Romanchik Mercer County Community College	Jose Silverio	Priyasha Uppal Northeastern University	Julianne Woodbury Middlesex County College
Vanessa Romero Rutgers University	Tylere Simpson West Virginia University	Kenny Urbina Middlesex County College	Jordan Wright Middlesex County College
Marlene Rosenberg Middlesex County College	Kushana Sinclair Lincoln Technical Institute	A. Hakan Uzumcu Rutgers University	Freda Yarboi Middlesex County College
Bethany Rubin Laboratory Institute of Merchandising	Jamera Sirmans Rutgers University	Sonia Vaid Rutgers University	Michael Young Rutgers University
Myles Rudin William Paterson University	Cagney Smith Middlesex County College	Nicole Van Avery Montclair State University	Kristen Youngman East Brunswick Vocational Technical School
Joseph Russo Temple University	Maleka Sosa	Ricardo Vasquez Middlesex County College	Jessica Yuen Rutgers University
Bafly Saad Wake Technical Community College	Terrell Sparks Delaware County College	Clinton Vickers Saint Petersburg City College	Malena Zambrano Middlesex County College
Eunice Safo Middlesex County College	Marcella Springstead Richard Stockton College	Eric Viera Middlesex County College	Michael Zankel Carnegie Mellon
Wilson Salinas	Chloe St. Rose Quinnipiac University	Linda Vizcaya Rutgers University	Athanasios Zavolas Middlesex County College
Brittany Samba Ferrum College	Amanda Stio Widener University	Kaitlyn Vogel Middlesex County College	
Jonathan Sanchez Berkeley College	Erik Stokley	Jerome Walker Chubb Institute	
L. Esmeralda Sanchez-Dias	Enid Sun Boston University	Erica Ward Montclair State University	
Karla Santana Chubb Institute	Laura Sutlic Kean University		

Tatiana People



Good afternoon everyone. This big event, graduation, is full of excitement and anticipation for the unknown and unseen. Graduation is that special time in a person's life when the need for change rules like never before. It is also a defining moment. You're not just graduating from elementary school, middle school, or high school but one step of life to another, socially and psychologically. Throughout the years here we've built friendships and lost ones, received some ok grades, good grades and not so good grades. We've faced challenges that didn't destroy us but made us who and what we are today. Now that we've left our mark on NBTHS, it's time for us to leave our mark on the world.

For all of us, now there are new goals to set and achieve. We need to plan our approach to meet the challenges and then concentrate on the first successful step. I was once told that the journey of a thousand steps starts with the first successful one. We need to continue to move forward and not let this one door shut in our lives without going through the next open door. Newton D. Baker once said "The person who graduates then stops learning

is uneducated the day after that." I would like to leave you with a short poem entitled "Never Stop Learning" by an unknown author:

On this, your graduation day take a stand and give cheer to honor you for all the work you've done to get you here.

As we rise and give applause be sure you don't forget that learning is not over as your future plans are met.

May you always be a listener and learn from all you meet always keep a student's spirit and your life will be complete.

Best Wishes and congratulations to the class of 2008! These have been our announcements please govern yourselves accordingly.

RJ Barkelew & Elizabeth Tsygan

We would like to start off by saying that great moments are born from great opportunity. This is why we are here today, a great opportunity is being given to us. We might have



made mistakes nine out of ten times during the past four years, but today none of it matters. Today is our day. Today we are the graduating class of 2008, and finally it's our time to show the world what we are capable of. We stand today as classmates, but if one thing is certain we will never forget one another. Through the opportunities found within the walls of North Brunswick Township High School, our connection to each other will remain strong throughout all of our endeavors in life. Our bond through

clubs, organizations, the student government, and sports teams, will never die. Through the tiring, late nights of cramming for tests, missing social events to finish typing up the paper that's due tomorrow, and hours of researching to complete that history project. We have become one of the closest, hardworking, and dedicated classes in NBTHS history. Though a lot of us are going, as far away from New Jersey as possible, we'll always be connected through Facebook or AIM. I ask you all to remember one thing before we head out those doors to endless opportunities, and that one thing is the fact that the class of 2008 will always be the greatest graduating class NBTHS has ever seen. Oh eight, we've been great.



April Hustik

About midway through this school year, I was sitting with some friends in the commons eating lunch. As I looked around I began to think, "Wow, I can't believe we're seniors. I'm going to miss this place so much! It seems like just yesterday we were freshmen. I don't want to leave!" I started to get upset and I told my friend what I was thinking about. He looked at me with a puzzled face and said, "Do you seriously want to come back here again next year?" So I thought about it for about a second and said, "No! You're right, I don't!"

Class of 2008, this is the day we have been looking forward to for so long! Freedom, I mean, graduation, at last! Today is a turning point in our lives, the first of many great accomplishments we hope to achieve in our lives. Even though we may not want to come back next year, there is no way that we will ever forget the twelve long years, thirteen if you include kindergarten, we struggled through to make it to this ceremony, to wear these ridiculous caps and gowns as our friends and families watch us proudly. Elementary school wasn't so bad. We learned to read and write and, of course, take naps. Linwood was another story. We got lockers and with them came detentions for arriving late to class. Finally, we entered high school in 2004 as mere freshmen. And if we all go home and look at our yearbooks from freshman year, I'm sure we'll all get a good laugh. A couple of years have gone by and we have become the big bad seniors that we once feared. The four years we spent in high school were truly a time of self-discovery. There have been so many memories that we will always cherish and never forget. Today, we are leaving the school that we have loved and hated, that has made us laugh and



made us cry, but most importantly, that has prepared us for the future.

Some people look at graduation as the end of the best years of their lives. To me, this is just the beginning of an even greater chapter in our lives. I'd like to quote Michelangelo, who once said, "The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim was too high and we missed it, but that it was too low and we reached it." As we leave this school, we look to the future with hope and excitement. The one question in the back on all of our minds though is, "What's next?" Wherever we go and whatever we do, I tell you all right now, dream big, and be what you want to be, because we only have one life and one chance to do all the things we want to do. And I know we're ready.

As we move forward with our lives, the friendships we've made here, we will never forget. The lessons we've learned will stick with us forever. And maybe, just maybe, someday the stuff we learned in math class we'll actually use in the real world.

NBTHS class of 2008, congratulations! What can I say? We made it!