## Commencement Speech Cecilia Mendez, Trustee, Area 1

It is with great honor that I have the privilege of participating in this commencement ceremony with you today.

With planned preparation and a valued college education, you can always expect success to be the outcome. With an ambitious mind set and a clear idea on what you want to achieve, you can make plans to reach your goals. It is important to write down your goals and dreams or have it etched on your mind until you accomplish it. Having an optimistic attitude, determination, perseverance, confidence and ambition will help you defeat many unforeseen challenges as you strive to fulfill your educational goals.

There are many reasons as to why it is important to be college, career and community ready. When students experience a college education or vocational school, they have the opportunity to read books and listen to the lectures of top educators in their fields. Students are encouraged to ask questions and explore new ideas, which allows for additional growth and development. Students will also have the opportunity to gain valuable resources while attending college or a vocational school which will help students when they begin their job search. The worldwide economy is becoming even more competitive, and in order to give yourself the best chance for a well-paying career, you must first understand the importance of higher education. Students will have the knowledge and experience which will be advantageous for many years to come.

I encourage you to continue your advancement to a successful future and know that you can achieve anything when you believe in yourself.

I formally accept the High School Class of 2021 and now direct staff to begin the awarding of diplomas.