

Date: December 10 & 11, 2020 Grade Level: 12 th	GHS Seminar
Recommended Sequence	Seminar Meeting
Objective(s) / Learning Target(s):	1. Students will understand their own motivations to achieve after high school.
Materials Needed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer, LCD Projector, Speakers
Suggested Process:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask students to share any good news they might have since the last time you met together (something good that’s happened to them either personally, school-wise, etc.). You can model this by sharing some good news about yourself. <p>SEMINAR ACTIVITY: <u>“You Are Not Special”</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Ask students to think about something “special” about themselves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What would their parents say is special about them? ▪ What would their teachers say is special about them? ▪ What would their friends say is special about them? 3. Have them share this out with the rest of the group – if they don’t feel comfortable, don’t force it, but allow the conversation to happen. 4. Tell your group that they will be graduating in 4 months. Ask your group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What will graduation mean to you? ▪ Does it signify that you are done with this place, that you’ve learned something, that you are getting on to the next place that can get you a job (i.e. that it’s a means to an end)? 5. Show the following video of this commencement speech from 2012. Ask them (before they watch the speech) to listen to points they agree with and disagree with. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= lfxYhtf8o4
Discussion Questions:	<p><u>Discussion Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Do you agree with the points Mr. McCullough makes in his speech?</i> • <i>Whose approval means the most to you? A parent's? A teacher's? A coach's? Your own?</i> • <i>Do you think that our society is giving out “too many trophies” making people think that everyone is special?</i> • <i>Do we think that education is for “learning” or “material advantage”?</i> • <i>Do you think it's good to be told that you're not perfect, or to be shown when you've done something wrong?</i> • <i>What's the thing you've done recently that you are most proud of - whether or not it was recognized by anyone else?</i> • <i>Do you think students do things to be recognized or because they want to do them?</i>

