

The Art of Making Good Choices

from Ms. Gabor

You are growing up and will be moving to middle school.

In our class, you have learned a lot of math, reading, science and social studies. You've learned how to play soccer and other sports.

You have had a lot of new experiences and learned to do tasks that you might not have learned at home.

You have learned how to make friends and to be a good friend. That means being loyal and supportive. It means listening to another person's problems and not judging them. We just listen so our friends know we care.

You have learned a lot this year.

Have you also learned to make **good** choices? The emphasis is on the word "good."

We all make choices every minute of every day. Some choices are automatic. We pick up a spoon to eat soup. We pick up either a pen or a pencil to write. Or, maybe we use a computer keyboard.

We don't have to think about some choices. Our brains automatically do that for us.

However, there are other choices that we must consciously make. One of the most important choices is

What are we going to do with the rest of our life?

Now is the time to begin thinking about this.

How will we make a living? Do we want to settle for just any job? Or, do we want to have a career and do something we love to do that is exciting and fun and pays well.

Do we want to have a great car or just any old car?

What we do as grown-ups depends on the choices we now begin to make regarding our education.

As we move through middle school and then high school, we can open doors for ourselves to go to college or a technical school or a career college.

There are many scholarships and grants available that will pay for our education.

Will we grab the opportunity to make our future life great? Or will we just accept whatever comes around.

If we choose our goals, we can achieve them. If we do NOT set goals, how can we complain if our lives don't turn out so well?

You have reached a major milestone in your education. You have finished over six years. You are over half way to getting your high school diploma. You can do it.

Happiness comes with the choices we make.

The best advice I can give to you today as you move toward your future is to suggest that you always remember to stop and think about what you are doing. When you do that, you have the opportunity to make the very best choice for yourself.

Go to the future, students, with pride in yourselves for all you've accomplished and with hope for a great and beautiful life.

Your teachers, administrators, and all the staff at our school love you. We wish you happiness and success and please stay in touch with us and let us know how you are doing.