

FAREWELL SPEECH

When I started 5th grade, I was shy and quiet. I was looking for something that would help me to overcome my shyness. I had looked into a few activities to join but nothing really excited me. All my friends had activities of their own, some took dance lessons, others played basketball, and I was feeling a bit down about not having found what I was interested in.

Now, I have to be honest, I never was interested in politics before, and I am still not sure if I would want to be a politician when I grow up, but when my teacher, Mrs. Foreman, told the class that we would be participating in the Kid Governor program, I got really excited. Something inside me knew that this would be my thing. I was finally going to get the chance to participate in something special!

The Kid Governor program has been exactly what I had been searching for. I got the chance to really talk to my classmates and get to know them through working together during the election. I made new friends. I grew closer to old friends through their supporting me while I fulfilled my responsibilities. I was becoming more outgoing and confident day by day. I had no idea if I would actually get elected, but I was having so much fun with the process, that it didn't really matter to me. In my mind, I had already won. Then the result came in... with the help of my teachers and friends, I had won the election!

Over the last year, as Governor, I have done more than I ever could've imagined. I have been in newspapers, on TV, done a library tour, and raised money for my cause, animal cruelty. I even sang the National Anthem at a concert over the summer, (which, by the way, was probably the most scary), because as I found out, it is much easier to talk in front of people than it is to sing in front of people. It's hard for people, (and sometimes even for me), to believe that I participated in this program because of how shy I used to be.

Of all the things I have accomplished during my time as Governor, my favorite accomplishment was the club I created after school. It was awesome to be able to hang out with other kids making dog toys to donate. My favorite event was when the Girl Scout Organization invited me to participate in the GIRL expo. At the expo, I got a chance to be a role model and teach the kids about my animal cruelty. When I was free to wander, I got to meet so many cool girls doing science, archery, writing books and being explorers. It was very inspiring and taught me that there are no limits to what I can do.

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My time as Governor may have come to an end, but my fight for animals is far from over, and I will be working hard to get laws put in place to provide more protection for our furry friends.

I am looking forward to supporting Suzy in all that she does while serving as the next Governor, and I will always be grateful to have been the first kid to be elected, for the confidence this program has helped me find in myself, and for all the good things we accomplished for animals during my time in office.

While I was writing this speech I found this quote from T Harv Eker, “successful people have fear, successful people have doubts, and successful people have worries, they just don’t let these feelings stop them”, while serving your term, Suzy, you may have fear, you may have doubt but as long as you stay true to yourself, you can and will do great things.

Finally, a special thank you to Brian Confrancesco for starting this program. I want to say thank you to Governor Sununu and his wife Valerie for always being so kind to me during my term. Most importantly, I want to thank Martha Madsen and Luane Genest for being brave enough to bring this program to New Hampshire, because without you I wouldn’t have had the opportunity to participate in this program.

Thank you everyone and good luck Suzy.

