



By Keanna Cook, St. Ursula Academy Class of 2011

Tonight I am supposed to talk to my fellow sisters already here at St. Ursula. Now I will not stand here and bore you with a long list of advice. So I will just stick to the basics. For the juniors I know you cannot wait to be seniors. But as you have already figured out high school goes by fast. As seniors it seems to only speed up, so promise yourselves you will not let this time dwindle away. In practically 6 months you will be applying to many different colleges and making decisions that will change your lives forever. So do not let nonsense or stupid arguments stop you from enjoying this time together. Most importantly trust me when I say this; each of you will get senioritis! But procrastination will get you nowhere so finish strong...just have fun doing it!!! Next, sophomores you are now half way done. You will now officially become upperclassmen. You just finished what some people consider the most difficult year. I honestly think it is the year you learn the most about yourself. You are learning who your true friends are while discovering new things that interest you. The family you make here along with the skills you develop will make all of you into strong and beautiful young women by your senior year. Freshmen I will just tell you what I wish someone had told me. Freshman and sophomore year is all about independence and growth. But you need the desire to try your hardest at school. If studying habits need to change, change them, if you need help, ask. You cannot let pride or fear hold you back from achieving anything. You will make

and lose new friends but do not try to fit in to the detriment of yourself. As long as you give full effort and you surround yourselves with people who truly care you will be fine.

Last but not least are the parents. Now when I say parents I do not just mean your mom and dad. I mean every grandparent, aunt, uncle, or guardian who was there for us when no one else was. We as teenagers do not appreciate all that they do. Because when you talk about your parents in high school it is mainly to say how much they get your on nerves and I know they do. But when it is your turn to leave for college you will see them in a new light. Now will you still argue or disagree? Absolutely but you will cherish these last few months of constantly having people around with your best interest at heart. So I want to thank all of you for loving us unconditionally especially my own parents. So girls do not ever give up on yourselves because they never did. And as Lupe says “You will never know, what you could ever be, if you never try you would never see”