**Profile Speech- Final**

It’s time to add some polish to those speeches! The better you do now the less you will have to do before May. So what are the pitfalls and how do you correct them?

**Introductions**

“my name is”-Avoid the typical start try to figure out a way to grab your audience’s attention. This speech sets the tone for what is to come; you don’t want your audience bored by word two.

Suggestions:

Quotes: A great quote that relates to you and your life will set a tone for your speech. However if you just choose a quote to start with one it will sound forced or wrong. Choose wisely and think about it!

A story: It’s not a bad idea to start with a story that tells a little about you and will reveal some things about yourself. For example: If you would pretend to be a teacher when you were little and played school with all your friends and now you are going to college to be a teacher or if you would take apart every new toy you would get and now you are going to be an engineer. Both of those examples show some insight into what drives you and you can fill in the gaps with what happened in between.

**Body**

**“**in first grade I…In second grade I…In third grade I…”- Avoid this pattern of checking off each year you were in school. Focus on the memories and moments that helped shape you into who you are. This will also help with the flow of the speech which should seem natural.

“People who inspired me were”- Instead of telling us directly they inspired you, show us! Tell a story of how they helped you understand something, or how they pushed you to do something. Remember to keep this contained to the part of your life you are talking about, it’s pretty odd to talk about a 1st grade teacher who inspired you after you finished talking about your high school experience.

Fears- It’s okay to admit to being scared, but don’t just say you are. What scares you about leaving here? Or on the reverse What doesn’t scare you? Why?

**Conclusion**

“and that’s it” –Nope! Your ending should be apparent to everyone. This is where a good intro comes into play. If you used a quote you can bring it back up. If you used a story you can reflect on it. Make sure your ending leaves a feeling of completeness and not a question of if you are done.