

As I am in the middle of completing my senior year I have learned a lot. Some of those things I did not have a clue I would experience. The most important things I would tell an incoming freshman so that they could maximize their high school experience would be to always be kind, try your best and believe in yourself, and spend your time doing the right things. Those are some of the simplest things you are able to do everyday, but it may get difficult while completing high school.

The all time most valuable thing I have learned while at high school to maximize my experience is to always be kind. It makes high school a better place, and makes you feel better as a person. Kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. Being kind to others is something small that you are capable of doing everyday. No matter who it is, what they are or are not to you, you can always be kind. It makes a big difference, and a smile and small conversation could change someone's day. We are often selfish when going about our days, and only thinking about ourselves. Instead, be selfless and be considerate of others. Spread kindness, and see how much it will change you, and the people around you. High school can be tough for everyone and this is something small that can help you and others through that.

Believing in yourself is not always as simple as it seems. There will be a lot of challenges you face while completing high school, but know that if you believe in yourself you can do anything that you put your mind to. Bruce Lee said, "Always be yourself and have faith in yourself. Do not go out and look for a successful personality and try to duplicate it." Make your own success, and celebrate yourself even if it's for something small. When you are proud of yourself that is all that will matter. I think trying your best and believing in yourself goes hand in hand. You can't do your best if you don't know that you are capable of doing, and that starts with believing in your abilities. Being your best will be different than someone else's best and that is something we all have to learn and accept.

Doing the right thing is a concept that you will never perfect, especially in four short years. While in high school you will be faced with numerous amounts of decisions. Some may be easy, yet others will be tough. Part of maximizing your high school experience is doing what you need to do for yourself. Peer pressure and friends' opinions make decisions even harder on you. The wrong choice may seem right just because everyone else is doing it, but don't fall for that. Choose the right thing based on your morals and beliefs. Do not let others influence you on how you are going to choose what you want to do. You want to look back on your high school experience and know you did what was right for you and not necessarily for others.

It took me four years to figure out these are the most important things that I can do to make my time, and everyone else's around me, at high school better. These four years fly by and before you know it, it's all coming to an end. These simple things you can do daily guarantee that you can look back at your years at high school and know you did all you could to make it the best.