

## PTA tal vid skolavslutningen juni 2009, av Dag Svedros

Many of you have been with this school since its opening three years ago, and at least some of you have spent time during these years comparing the so called **tough-love** concept with schools you have attended before, and with comments you have got from friends in other schools.

It's easy to focus on the **tough** side of the expression, and of course the PTA, Parent Teacher Association, contribute to keeping order in school and in maintaining the highest academic standard. But just as important to us is the **love** element in the concept. It stands for humanity, and is an invaluable part of your future lives.

During your time at this school, we hope you have enjoyed happenings like the Halloween Party, Valentines Dance, Spring Fair and all the other activities, brought to you by your parents with tireless support from teachers, and with enthusiastic involvement from many of you. We believe strongly that these activities have helped in your development, as you have grown more mature and not just older.

How can we say that? Well, in school you have developed **hard skills** like good study habits, perseverance and subject knowledge. We do hope there has been a development of **soft skills** as well.

On this day, where there is such a big focus on grades, Valedictorian, high academic achievement, the PTA wants to emphasize the **soft side**: the importance of a positive atmosphere, humanity and caring behavior. We really want to promote good friendship and positive interaction between you as young people, on the verge of becoming adults. Life is not only about hard facts as you know, it's also very much about interaction between people, about communication and about love. We hope that you in your future development will always bring with you an appreciation of the **soft skills**.

The PTA has a tradition to give a small award on this day to strengthen your memory. Soft skills are not always easy to measure, we are well aware of that. However, you have all been asked to look at the three criteria

1. a good role model,
2. always happy to help others,
3. generally helpful & positive.

And we have asked you to nominate the person in your class that you feel most represents these qualities.

I wish you all a prosperous future, and for the PTA Award this year, I would like to see

9A .....

9B .....

9C .....

9D .....

9E .....