Getting to Graduation Day brings with it a roller coaster of emotions for graduates and their families alike. It’s a time of celebration and achievement. There is reflection on past trials and successes as well as hope for the future. Our graduates have worked so very hard to reach this goal. We, in the Migrant Education program, are filled with pride for these students, and are excited to see what the future holds.

To you, the Graduates of 2018, know this...“Set out each day believing in your dreams. Know without a doubt that you were made for great things.” ~Josh Hinds.
Students in the Rosemead Consortium Migrant Education Program, grades 6 through 8, had the opportunity this year to be involved in Speech and Debate. This was the first year the Rosemead Consortium had offered this opportunity, although the LACOE Migrant Education Program had begun three years ago. Classes began in September and continued through March.

The Rosemead Consortium had three students in the Speech and Debate class chosen to compete in the Regional Tournament in March and win. This win earned them the opportunity to compete at the State level, along with other teammates from Region 10 (Los Angeles County) in May in Visalia, CA. They practiced during the week and weekends to prepare for the state competition, with their coach, Mr. Ron Sais, an incredible teacher at Durfee Elementary, El Monte City School District. The participants were Kathryn Quintanilla, an 8th grade student at Muscatel Middle School, David Granados a 7th grade student at Muscatel Middle, both of the Rosemead School District, and Margarita Mera, a 6th grade student at Parkview Elementary, Mountain View School District. All three students participated in Speech, while other teammates from Region 10 participated in Debate. David Granados received 3rd place at the State Level in Speech; his first attempt!

It was wonderful to witness the growth of these students in their research, reading, writing, organizational, and oratory skills. While the students’ prepared speeches were wonderful, it was very exciting to see the students develop their extemporaneous speaking abilities. Many students who were shy to speak in public, now have the confidence to do so. When asked if they would consider participating again, without hesitation, they responded in a resounding “Yes.” We are very proud of the accomplishments of these students, and their coach. We thank the Los Angeles County Office of Migrant Education for their support of this Speech and Debate program and we are already looking forward to next year.