

A Letter to Miss Roeder

- Joanna Rosen

Dear Miss Roeder,

On behalf of the entire choral community at MHS, I would like to say thank you. You have worked so hard to make our program the best that it could be. You have helped us to fulfill our potential as a musical ensemble and you have been such an inspiration over the years.

Not only have you been a musical mentor to us, but you have also served as the rock of the music department here at the school. You have kept us grounded and focused for over a decade, and we could not be more appreciative.

There is one defining event that I will always connect with the MHS chorus: the Boston Marathon bombing. On April 15, 2013, I remember being absolutely devastated by what was reported on the news. During the following school week, everyone seemed slightly dazed and confused. It was only in chorus that the horrifying bombings were addressed. You took the time to stop our rehearsal and speak with us; ask us what our opinions on the attack were; check in to see if we were all right. In this respect, I will always connect the Marathon bombings with the community that you gave us here at MHS.

The fact that you took the time to just talk with us meant quite a bit to me. Many teachers would not feel the need to, or would not take the time. That you did proves your devotion to us as individuals and as a community.

Thank you so much for all the years you have given to the MHS choral program. You will be sorely missed.