

The high school cliché in pop culture

Famous cliches in popular movies and television shows

by Madison McVey



Breakfast Club: the 1985 Classic has a variety of different clique members, jock, princess, freak, basket case, and rebel stuck together in Saturday detention. Point: stereotypes don't define you. Believable? Yes



Gossip Girl: this 2007 TV series depicts kids living on the upper east side of New York. The show is about popularity, parties, and love. Point: more money means higher social status. Believable? No

Clueless: this 1995 movie demonstrates the social hierarchy at high school and how to fit in. Point: there is more to a person than their stereotype. Believable? Yes



Friday Night Lights: this 2006 TV series shows a stereotypical football player and cheerleader relationship in a small town that loves football. Points: jock culture boosts you on the social ladder. Believable? Yes



Project X: this 2012 movie shows a nerdy teenage boy throwing a crazy rager and inviting the whole school to gain more friends and popularity. Point: throw a party, become popular. Believable? Not to this extent



Glee: this 2009 TV show covers a lot of high school cliches, mostly relationships and stereotypes. Point: just because you come from different friend groups you can still be friends. Believable? Yes

Perks of Being A Wallflower: this 2012 movie depicts high school outsiders and how they live their lives differently than people would expect them to. Point: the outsiders have fun too. Believable? Yes



Sixteen Candles: this 1984 film shows a girl's sixteenth birthday that isn't noticed by anyone. In the end she gets the guy of her dreams and gains confidence. Point: the guy of your dreams will find you. Believable? Probably not



The journey may not be smooth, but it can still be fulfilling

High school isn't just about the good times, but learning from the choices you make along the way

by Abby Burton

If you asked me as a freshman what I thought my high school experience would be like, I would have said that it was going to be hard work but that it would overall go smoothly.

I didn't expect any bumps in the road and I really thought I was going to leave New Trier the same person I was when I started high school.

Boy, was I wrong.

So many things have changed, and for the better, may I add. People told me that the friends you enter high school with will be completely different than the ones you leave with.

I didn't believe this for a second. My friends and I are so close, how could that ever change?

I wouldn't say that my friends have completely changed over the years, but I have gained so many new relationships.

I don't like admitting that I had somewhat of a closed-mind freshman year, but I definitely did. I stayed close to the people I knew, and veered from the people I didn't.

In a way, this was the only way I knew how to get through freshman year. Sticking to the people I knew was the most comfortable for me.

High school is supposed to be a time to branch out of your junior high group, but I really didn't put this into action until sophomore year.

As a freshman, I thought that choosing the right classes and levels for me would be the hardest decisions I would have to make throughout high school. How inaccurate was my thinking process, right?

I played on the field hockey team freshman

and sophomore year, but I really believed that I would continue with it for my full four years at this school. I loved it. I felt so content when I would run onto the grass fields behind New Trier with my fiber stick in hand.

I'll admit, I wasn't the best on the team, but I did have a passion for the game. I never thought that this sport would play a role in one of the biggest decisions I've had to make while here at New Trier.

This decision was a little bigger than just class scheduling. After playing for junior varsity my sophomore year, I knew that I did not have a good chance of making the varsity team.

There were only six open spots and I definitely was not the strongest of the pool of players trying out. I had to decide whether I should spend my summer training and focusing solely on field hockey or giving it up and try

new things.

I ended up deciding that I wanted to see if there was anything else at this school that I would enjoy as much as field hockey, but maybe this time I could excel at it.

To this day, I still regret my decision. What could have been if I tried out my junior year?

That's another part of high school: regret. Regret is not something anybody enjoys feeling, but it plays a role in helping us grow.

I'm not saying that as a freshman I thought my high school experience would have been completely perfect, but I really didn't expect to have strong feelings of regret. I am glad I did though, because I've learned how to deal with tougher situations.

High school was way different than I expected freshman year, but I'd say it's been a great four years.

Did New Trier live up to your expectations?

"Yeah, I certainly think they did. I met a ton of new people, I was challenged academically, but it was everything I expected. I feel like because I had these expectations I was prepared for it."

-Michael Roeser, Senior

Did anything at New Trier surprise you or shock you going in?

"At first I thought it would feel more like a college where there are a ton of kids and a professor you'd never really get to talk to, but the teachers are pretty open and want you to come in and see them."

-Matthew Horvitz, Senior

What's the worst thing you have ever seen a New Trier student do?

"David Beio killed a young recently married couple living in the school district. He had thought out the murder perfectly and intended to do it all, it wasn't an accident."

-Patricia Bowler-Johnson, math teacher