Being in chorus all 4 years of high school allowed me to have a moment of respite each day, to have a family of people that I knew. It’s an incredible feeling when you’re in a room with a bunch of people that are passionate about the same thing you are and to be able to indulge with them. I can’t say it came without price, as my schedule required that I give up just a few classes that I wanted to take, but, personally, I’d never say I regretted going to chorus all 4 years. I’d make the same choice again without hesitation. As for what I’ve done with my time, I don’t believe it to be presumptuous for me to say that I’ve been an apt and engaged member of the chorus most every day. I’d always try to carry my part; I can’t say I openly offered help to people, but I’d just do my best and hope others could learn by example if they needed it. In my senior year, however, I was designated the bass section leader in both A Capella and Men’s Ensemble. I definitely struggled, especially when it came to parts where the sections I was responsible for split, but I did my best to keep everyone on track. Some people would ask me for help on things like sight reading, and I’d do my best to describe what I did. A little more on what chorus has done for me: recently, I was going through a really tough time in my life. I won’t get into the specifics, but the bottom line is that I was very much not okay. The people around me in chorus were the first to notice and reach out to me, which honestly helped more than they know. It might have been because there was a very clear divide from how I normally acted in chorus. Overall, chorus helped me in so many different ways - socially, emotionally, etc. I gained a lot of confidence through my progress in learning to sing. I am proud to call myself a part of Walton Chorus, and am proud to say that I believe I adequately provided to and received from the program.

* ***Luc Wagner***