

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR RELEASE: April 11, 2024

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## BCPS celebrates the Class of 2024 with graduating senior profiles

Towson, MD – Baltimore County Public Schools is celebrating its 2024 graduating seniors by presenting a profile of one student from each high school, selected by the school principals.

A new profile will appear on the home page of the <u>BCPS website</u> beginning on Thursday, April 11, and continuing each school day until the last day of school for seniors, Friday, May 24. All profiles that have been posted can be found on the <u>BCPS blog</u>. Photos of the profiled graduating seniors will also be posted on <u>Flickr</u>.

"These representative students reflect the amazing diversity and outstanding accomplishments of the Class of 2024," said BCPS Superintendent Dr. Myriam Rogers. "I encourage Team BCPS members to enjoy these profiles. Our seniors impress us every day with their intellectual curiosity and their dedication to their interests and their communities. We are so proud of what they have accomplished and eager to see which paths they will take and contributions they will make."

Included among the seniors profiled are future educators, business owners, health care professionals, engineers, journalists, attorneys, and U.S. Army officers. In reflecting on their BCPS education, the graduating seniors report the significant impact of specific teachers, coaches, and mentors. They also point to the strong influence of academic and skills competitions, career and technical education programs, athletics, student leadership programs, Junior ROTC, field trips, internships, service-learning, and the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination college readiness) program.

While still in high school, these students have amassed an impressive array of accomplishments such as earning associate degrees, earning full-ride scholarships, having research papers published, launching online businesses, earning professional certifications, founding clubs, and more.

Asked where they viewed themselves in 10 years, in addition to citing professional goals, the seniors also expressed the value they see in travel, taking care of family and friends, learning new skills, personal growth, and assisting underserved communities.

They shared favorite quotes from sources as diverse as the Greek philosopher Plato, author Malcolm Gladwell, actor Marilyn Monroe, rapper J. Cole, 19<sup>th</sup> century poet Emily Dickinson, singer/songwriter Taylor Swift, martial artist/actor Bruce Lee, and author Alice Walker. The favorite books and movies they shared are equally varied.

In his profile, Kevin Ramos Perez, the senior representing Sparrows Point High School, wrote that he will graduate "with many memories left behind, but many life lessons learned. Although it is cliche to say, a bit of advice I have for any younger students is to enjoy your time in school. Join clubs, play sports, persevere at math, cherish your teachers, and most important of all, don't wish time away. We as students are always waiting for the next class to be over, or the next practice to be done, or to go home. But that is what life is all about. There is beauty in the struggle, so don't wish time away."

<u>Graduations for BCPS seniors</u> will begin on Tuesday, May 21, and conclude on Saturday, June 8. A special graduation for students completing their requirements over the summer will be held on Thursday, August 8.

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<u>Baltimore County Public Schools</u>, the nation's 22nd largest school system, engages and empowers its talented students, teachers, staff, and stakeholders and strives to build an innovative and collaborative learning community where all students excel and reach their highest potential.

Engage. Empower. Excel.