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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Dr. Patricia Hollingsworth
Chief Communications Officer
pdhollingsworth@nrms.k12.nc.us

NRMPS Seniors Turn Their Tassels

Nashville, NC – Over 1,000 Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools (NRMPS) seniors turned their tassels as they graduated from four different high schools on Saturday, June 9, 2018. Ceremonies were held at Southern Nash High School (SNHS) at 9:00 am, Rocky Mount High School (RMHS) at 11:00 am, Northern Nash High School (NNHS) at 2:00 pm and Nash Central High School (NCHS) at 4:00 pm. Family, friends, teachers, board members and district administrators gathered to celebrate the success of the graduates.

The SNHS graduation was held in the gymnasium. Students and guests were greeted by Principal Hugh Scott during his opening remarks. Senator Rick Horner joined the Firebirds for the wonderful celebratory occasion. Marco Antonio Solana Luna served as valedictorian and Cory Scott Joyner served as salutatorian. Valedictorian Solana Luna said, “Don’t complain about things you aren’t willing to change, never settle for less and never stop trying.” He also honored class president Emma Bailey for her courage during a challenging time. The class president was greeted with a standing ovation as she entered the graduation.

A total of 269 graduates walked the stage and turned their tassels. Of the 269 graduates, 70 will attend four year colleges, 149 will attend two year colleges, 15 will join the military and 35 will enter the workforce. SNHS graduates who plan to attend college earned a combined total of \$3,525,548 in scholarships.

The next graduation took place at RMHS in the gymnasium. Principal Daniel Colvin opened the ceremony with remarks for all 255 students and guests. Solomon Tyler Gonzalez was named class valedictorian and Meredith Grayson Sides and Jerin Austin Smith were named class salutatorians. Gonzalez said goodbye to all things high school. “Goodbye state and national tests, goodbye prom, goodbye high school summers and goodbye to the community that nurtured us. The impact our community made on us will last a lifetime,” Gonzalez said.

The graduates have a variety of future plans as 119 will attend four year colleges, 91 will attend two year colleges, 24 will enter the military and 21 will join the workforce. The RMHS Class of 2018 earned a total of \$2,461,803 in college scholarships.

The next graduation took place at NNHS in the gymnasium. Principal Brian Hopkins provided opening remarks and welcomed the students and guests in attendance. Class valedictorian Natalie Brooke Bernat and class salutatorian Caitlyn Ivey Cooke led the line of the 268 graduates. Bernat encouraged the NNHS Class of 2018 to work hard as they begin the next chapters of their lives. “The best years of your life should start now. Never stop learning,” Bernat said.

A total of 115 NNHS graduates plan to attend four year colleges while 107 will attend two year colleges. A total of 14 graduates will enlist in the military and 32 will enter the workforce. The college-bound graduates earned a combined total of \$ 3,781,674 in scholarship funding.

The last graduation took place at NCHS in the gymnasium where 218 seniors walked across the stage. The 2018 graduating class valedictorian was Linzi Nicole Long, while MaryAnn Grace Hawks served as class salutatorian. Valedictorian Long encouraged students to be the very best version of themselves. “Bulldogs, let’s show this world what we are made of,” she proclaimed. The NCHS Bulldogs held a moment of silence in memory of staff member Carolyn Perry.

The NCHS Class of 2018 will pursue different opportunities, with a total of 79 graduates planning to attend four year colleges and 76 planning to attend two year colleges. A total of 11 graduates plan to join the military and 52 will join the workforce. Those students earned a combined total of \$4,815,114 in scholarship money.

Superintendent Dr. Shelton Jefferies beamed with pride as every graduating senior crossed the stage. “This was an exciting day for these students, their families and our district. Today we celebrated hundreds of bright and talented young men and women for reaching such a significant and important milestone in their lives,” he stated. “I am excited for the future that is set before them and wish them well in their plans and endeavors,” he added.

Full video coverage of the four graduation ceremonies can be accessed by using the links listed below.

Southern Nash High School live-stream link: <https://goo.gl/NYtrTH>

Rocky Mount High School live-stream link: <https://goo.gl/uDUAQW>

Northern Nash High School live-stream link: <https://goo.gl/8yPbWm>

Nash Central High School live-stream link: <https://goo.gl/tNWVTT>

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