

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

On Sunday, May 31, a virtual graduation ceremony honored our 122 class of 2020 seniors. Following the ceremony, 104 graduates and their families participated in a drive thru diploma ceremony. In a Spring that has been riddled with cancellations of many traditional events and celebrations, it was nice to provide the seniors with an opportunity to be recognized for their significant accomplishment. The class of 2020 has certainly demonstrated grit and determination amidst a time of uncertainty and disappointment. Their positive attitudes and optimism for the future demonstrated the character of the class of 2020. Below is my graduation address, I wish these outstanding young adults all the best as they pursue their hopes and dreams.

Class of 2020 Graduation Address

Good afternoon parents, grandparents, family members, friends, and Class of 2020. On behalf of the Edgerton School District Board of Education, the administrative team, and entire staff I would like to welcome you to today's celebration in which we recognize the successful completion of a high school diploma for the class of 2020. Congratulations!

A person's true character is always demonstrated in times of adversity. This spring certainly presented adverse times for all of you, and yet each of you persevered with a positive attitude and a sense of optimism for your future. There's no doubt we didn't plan for your senior year to end as it did, yet you embraced the reality of the pandemic with tenacity and made the best of the situation. Many of you learned a new skill, began preparing for your next adventure, or tried one of the many YouTube challenges. You clearly understand that life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass...it's about learning to dance in the rain.

In the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, “What lies behind us, and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.” You always get to choose your attitude in any given situation. I am impressed that you all chose optimism and hope for the days, months, and years to come.

There is no doubt this spring was one in which many traditional ceremonies and celebrations were cancelled, however always remember that hope will never be cancelled. We will return to a lifestyle that is more familiar to all of us soon. This spring will become a distant memory and the seasons ahead will fill with the new celebrations, new ceremonies, and new experiences. But one thing will never change, you will always be a Tider!

In closing, remember that behind you are all your memories, before you are all your dreams, around you--all who love you, and within you is all you need. Class of 2020, today you close the door on your time at ESD and you open the door to a world of opportunities—step on through and enjoy the adventure. I wish you the best in whatever path you choose.

Congratulations on a job well done!