

The STANDARD

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEER PARK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The World Is Waiting

FOR DEER PARK'S 2018 GRADS



It was a grand farewell to Falcons leaving the nest as the high school's Class of 2018 celebrated the school's 55th commencement on June 22.

Following a welcoming speech from Senior Class President Alan Korsiak, salutatorian Megan Zhang, a gifted flutist, used the silent moments of musicianship as a metaphor to reflect on the moment the seniors found themselves in. "Beyond the horizon, the world is waiting," she told her classmates.

Noting that her fellow seniors may not have known her well because she was often buried in her books studying at home, valedictorian Saraf Faruk said, "It's amazing to think that we have come all this way, through 12-plus years of school together, and are finally graduating. We made friendships and memories that will last a lifetime. It's both frightening and exciting to think that from this moment on, our lives will have changed. Everything we have learned is preparation for our adult lives."

Eschewing a traditional speech, Superintendent Eva Demyen instead uniquely chose to test the grads with

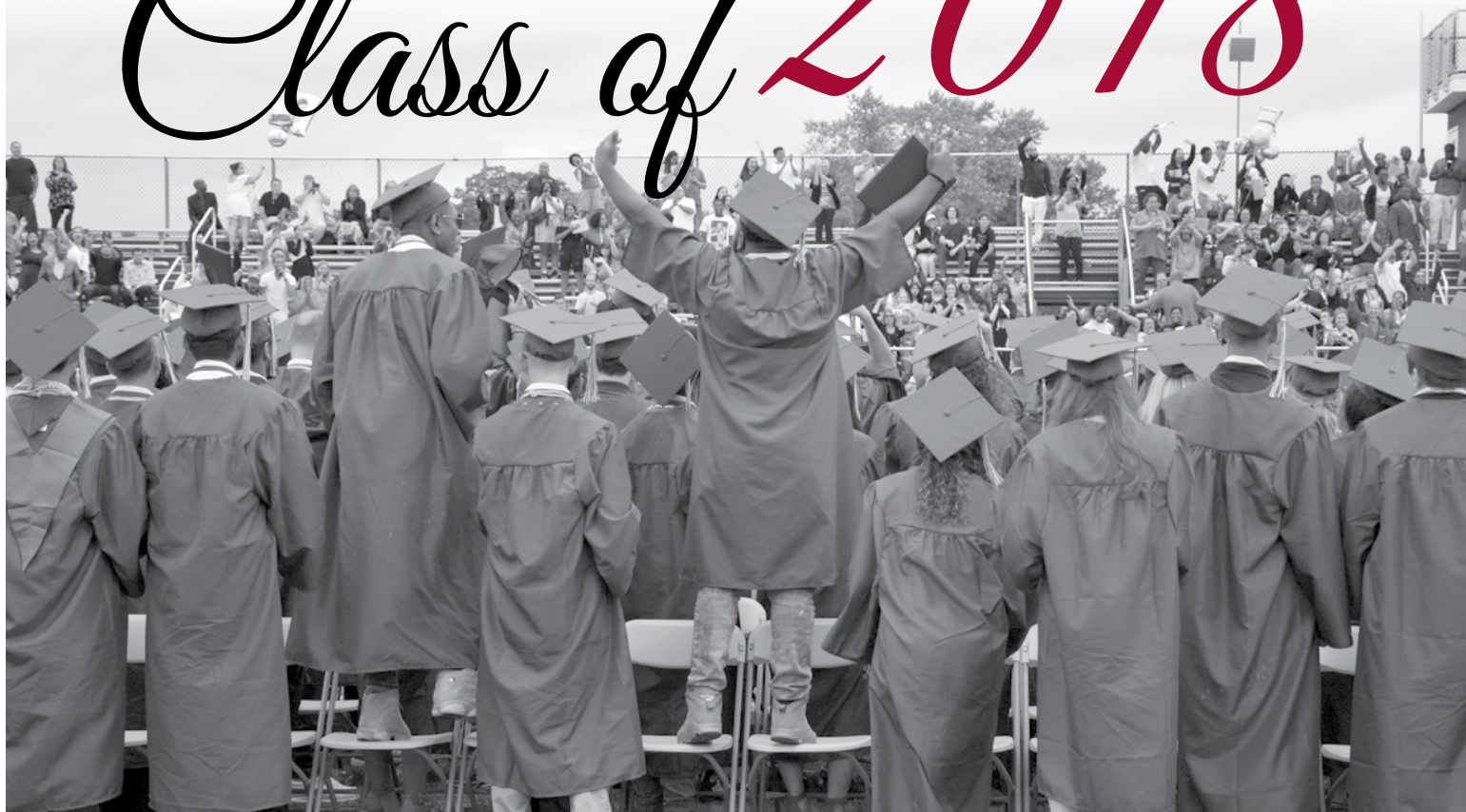
a series of inspirational quotes on courage, while Principal Charles Cobb paid heartfelt tribute to the late Donte McClurkin, whose family was on hand to receive his diploma.

"Be kind," he urged the new grads, before their tassels were turned, caps tossed and they had walked out as alumni. "By treating each other with kindness, you will have the opportunity every day to change the world."





Class of 2018





Valedictorian
Saraf Faruk



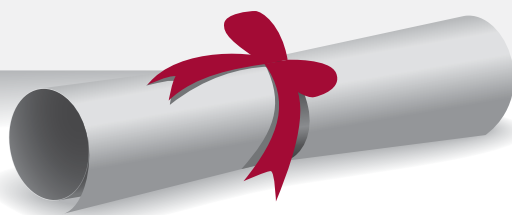
MEET THE
CLASS OF 2018

*Valedictorian and
Salutatorian*

The high school's Class of 2018 valedictorian and salutatorian are Saraf Faruk and Megan Zhang, respectively.

Faruk, an AP Scholar with Distinction, New York State Scholar-Athlete and National Honor Society vice president, was also a member of the Gold Honor Roll, Spanish Honor Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society. She will attend Stony Brook University this fall, majoring in biology.

Zhang, an AP Scholar with Distinction, member of the National Honor Society and president of the Spanish Honor Society, was named an All-Eastern and All-State band musician. She will attend Brown University this fall, majoring in music and international relations.



Salutatorian
Megan Zhang



#3 – CATHERINE TAIBE



#4 – TAMARA BEAUCHAMP



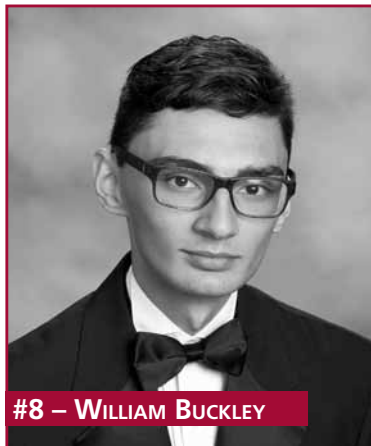
#5 – ALAN KORSIK



#6 – ISABELLA COLACIOPPO



#7 – DANIELLE TIRADO



#8 – WILLIAM BUCKLEY



#9 – LAUREN LEON

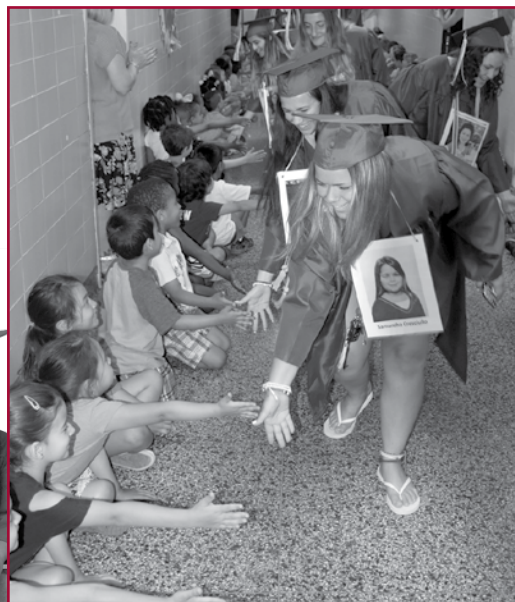


#10 – SEAN SANCHEZ

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Inspiring New Walk Tradition Unites Seniors and Primary Schoolers

Beginning a memorable new tradition, high school seniors traveled to their respective primary school buildings for a senior walk on June 18. The graduates paraded through JQA and May Moore as the younger students lined the hallways, followed by a question-and-answer period where outgoing second-graders had the chance to talk to and gain inspiration from the seniors.



**ROBERT FROST
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**MOVING UP
TO A
NEW CHAPTER**



JFK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



MAY MOORE PRIMARY SCHOOL



JQA PRIMARY SCHOOL