



DUCHESSNE HIGH SCHOOL

shaping leaders in mind, body, and spirit

Hello all,

This week the Duchesne celebrated our Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation for the class of 2023. I mentioned at Graduation that I am not a fan of the event. I am proud to send our seniors off into the world, but it always makes me a little sad. Sending them off also means that we will miss them here in our community. And, what's not to miss. Take our speakers as two obvious examples.

On Tuesday night, **Ethan Kissell**, spoke to us about the statistics for the class of 2023, and they are quite remarkable. He started by noting that the Class of 2023 “has achieved over 7,000 service hours.” And then in case his audience wasn't impressed with that number he converted it into 41 weeks, or 9 ½ months. That's an academic year. Not too bad for a class that could not do in person service for much of their high school lives.

Ethan's speech was eloquent and charming, and he finished by defining his class: “We have done more with less. These last four years and all we have done together, have shaped us into who we are today. Those statistics and numbers showcase the resilient, strong, generous, courageous, hardworking, determined, and successful young adults we have become.”

Last night, **Dianne Collins** looked to the future. She started by acknowledging the past and how it shapes us. She then recognized the fear that comes with the unknown: “There is also a certain sorrow in leaving the place and people we have known the last four years. No one really mentions how difficult it can be when things change and [graduating high school] is a big change.” She then focused her attention on why the future might be concerning for many.

To answer that question Dianne insightfully looked at the difference between what success means when it is defined by others and what it means when it is defined by the individual: “Success holds a different meaning for everyone. A lot of people would argue that success is money, once you've made a lot of money you are successful. Other people would say that success can come in having a spouse or a loving family. There are a lot of ways that people identify success and I think it's really important that you determine what success is for you... In a lot of ways, success is happiness... Only we can know what will make us happy, which is why we need to listen to ourselves and not what the rest of the world thinks.”

Ethan and Dianne are wonderful examples of what is great about the Class of 2023. While we have immense pride for them and their peers, we also know they will be greatly missed.

Pax,

Dominic D'Urso



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Upcoming Events

- May 19 **State Track:** Claire Burks and Heidi Hartwig will compete in the state tournament. Wish them luck.
- May 20 **State Track:** Alice Hoffmann will compete in the state tournament. Wish her luck.
- May 19-20 **Individual State Tennis:** Tommy Griese and Nathan Nickel will compete in the state tournament. Wish them luck.
- May 22 **Last Day of Classes:** This will be the last full day of classes for our freshmen and sophomores. The juniors are not required to be on campus.
- May 23 **All School Mass:** All freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will start the day in their Communions. From there we will go to our All School Mass (around 8:00). As usual, all of our families are welcome.
- Fr/So Reading Day:** After Mass, our Freshmen and Sophomores will have their Reading Day. They are free to leave, but they can also use the day to check in with their teachers one last time before finals. Teachers will be available in their rooms until noon.
- Junior Mini-Retreat:** After Mass, our juniors will meet to reflect on their week of service. This mini-retreat should finish between 10:30 and 11:00.

Fr/So Finals

- May 24 **Final Exams 1, 2, & 3:**
- Period 1 Exam: 8:00—9:05
- Period 2 Exam: 9:15—10:15
- Period 3 Exam: 10:25—11:25



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May 25

Final Exams 4, 5, & 6:

Period 4 Exam: 8:00—9:05

Period 5 Exam: 9:15—10:15

Period 6 Exam: 10:25—11:25

May 26

Final Exams 7 & 8

Period 7 Exam: 8:00—9:05

Period 8 Exam: 9:15—10:15

May 26-27

Team State Tennis: The boys tennis team will compete in the state final four tournament for the first time in school history. I can't wait. Wish them luck.

Exam Information

Students only need to be on campus when they are taking exams. If, for example, they do not have a period 3 exam, they are free to leave after their period 2 exam is finished. Also, if they do not have a period 1 exam, they do not need to get to class until their period 2 exam begins. If a student is off between exams, they should report to the cafeteria and study for the third exam of the day.

All of the exams end by 11:30. This is done intentionally to give students time to prepare for their finals the following day.