

August 2020 Congratulations to the Foxborough Regional Charter School Class of 2020!

On Monday, July 20, 2020, 61 students received their high school diplomas at Foxborough Regional Charter School's 18th annual commencement.



The graduation ceremony, originally planned for May 31st, was pushed back once Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced that in-person outdoor graduation ceremonies would be permitted under strict social distancing guidelines beginning in late July. Students weighed in, and overwhelmingly voted for an inperson celebration of their achievements.

Staff members transformed our Elementary School parking lot, into the perfect spot for a socially-distant and safe celebration.

Dr. Mark Logan, Executive Director of Foxborough Regional Charter School addressed the class of 2020. He reminded the graduates that the challenges they faced this year gave them an opportunity to think outside their traditional way of thinking. "The world needs your ambition, your drive and your passion." Logan said. "We're also counting on you for your compassion, your understanding and service to others."

Co-Valedictorians Catherine Fandel, of Mansfield, and Katya

Lammey of Norton took the stage together, along with Salutatorian Lydia Chubet of Foxboro to address the class of 2020. These three outstanding students congratulated their classmates and wished them well as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

Mrs. Nikole Skoko, School Culture Liaison for the High School, spoke to the class of 2020 about how the year has changed each and every one of their lives. From COVID-19, to the "You guys have come to learn that life is tough, but you are as well." Said Skoko. "Challenge conventional doctrine and wisdom, and listen to your voices, gather your peers, and make stuff happen!"

In addition, the Class of 2020 received a special Commencement message from Mr. Keith Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins, a nationally known motivational speaker, reminded the graduates to have courage, and the will to push through difficult times. He encouraged the students to continue to help one another, and work towards making the world a better place.

Our graduates were accepted to and will be attending many outstanding institutions of higher education. You can take a look at where our students are headed, <u>here</u>. Many students received significant merit-based scholarships as well as were invited into numerous Honors programs. As all our graduates embark on their next steps, we wish them a very happy, safe, and successful journey.



The Accomplishments of the Class of 2020

Over the course of their four-year high school adventure, our seniors have had many opportunities to learn and grow. They have been offered challenging coursework and experience far beyond the traditional classroom walls. Our School Counseling Department has shared these highlights:

Advanced Placement:

Ø 90% of our graduating class has immersed themselves in at least 1 Advanced Placement course throughout their four years of high school - very impressive!

- \emptyset 76% of our graduating class took on a least 1 AP class during their senior year.
- \emptyset 52% of our graduating class engaged in 3 or more AP courses during their senior year.
- \emptyset 22% took on 5 or more Advanced Placement classes during their four years of high school.
- \emptyset Seven seniors had 7 or more AP classes throughout high school.

STEM Honors Diploma:

The STEM Honors Diploma requires a four-year commitment to rigorous courses, consistently high performance in our annual science fair, and progressive experiential learning culminating in an internship. Congratulations to the following students who achieved this exceptional distinction:

Emily Berry Thajhea Desir Abida Husain Prachi Patel Elijah Ramos

Rosetta Stone, Dual Enrollment, VHS, Independent Study, and SIE:

Ø Half the class took on the challenge of independent, online learning through Virtual High School, Rosetta Stone Languages, Independent Study, and/or Dual Enrollment.

Ø Six seniors engaged in Senior Independent Enrichment. These experiences included: Alternative Medicine, Film Analysis & Screen Writing, Sports Management, Thermodynamics -Waves & Optics, Fashion Design, and Clinical Psychology.

Ø Co-Valedictorian, Katya Lammey was fully Dual Enrolled this year at Johnson & Wales University. She completed her high school requirements while attending her first year of college. Katya is pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Equine Science and will be a university sophomore in the fall.

Post-FRCS Highlights:

Ø Seniors sent 470 applications to 140 colleges and universities. Admissions included a very diverse set of public and private colleges across New England and beyond in certificate, two, four, and six-year programs. The overall acceptance rate, over 70% for all college applications, is an outstanding accomplishment!

 \emptyset Over 55% of the class were invited into one or more Honors programs.

Ø Twenty-six seniors (41% of the class) were awarded the John & Abigail Adams scholarship. This is based on tenth grade MCAS scores and provides full tuition at any Massachusetts State College or University. This percentage is much higher than the 25% for most schools because more of our students score in the top 25% when compared with other students in their own towns.

Ø Thirty-eight seniors received merit financial awards from colleges of at least \$10,000 per year; of those 18 received merit scholarships of \$20,000 or more, and 16 seniors received merit scholarships of over \$30,000 per year. Our Class of 2020 was awarded over \$1.5 million in merit scholarships in total!

Acceptances and scholarships are the result of lots of determination, talent, and many people working together to create opportunity and reach goals. All these highlights showcase both individual and collective accomplishments of this amazing graduating class. Congratulations to everyone!