



Savannah Spaulding
Troy
Parents: Jamie and Mary Spaulding



Bradley Strain Jr.
Troy
Parents: Matthew and Christyna Wilson and the late Brad Strain



Maddie Sydnor
Troy
Parents: Clay and Meredith Sydnor



Cassidy Taylor
Troy
Parents: Jim and Cande Taylor



Brittany Shyann Turner
Tiptonville
Parents: Richard and Montana Turner



Samantha Veltri
Troy
Parents: Brenda Veltri and late Lou Veltri



Kaitlyn Waites
Union City
Parents: Matt and Antoinette Waites



Connor Reid Whaley
Union City
Parents: Regina Whaley and the late Danny Whaley



Key'shawn Williams
Troy
Parents: John and Rosella Williams



Olivia Yates
Union City
Parents: Jonathan Yates and Serena Harrison

Learn more about valedictorian honors

Commencement season is an important time in a graduate's life. There is excitement at the prospect of new opportunities on the horizon as well as a feeling of accomplishment for successfully making it through years of schooling. Receiving a top honor such as valedictorian can be the icing on the cake of a job well done. Academics can be very competitive. The highest academic honor a student can receive in high school is to be named valedictorian of his or her class. Typically, valedictory honors are determined by grade point average; however, some schools may measure rankings differently. For example, certain schools may have weighted GPAs, which means students in higher level classes can earn weighted GPAs. If a student takes an advanced-placement course, he or she can garner a 5.0 score for that class by earning an A grade. Standard courses may top out at a 4.0 for a course for an A grade, according to PrepScholar, a school-testing guide and tips resource. Even though top grades are part of the equation, it may take more than grades alone to be named valedictorian. Some schools may weigh other achievements



EARNING VALEDICTORIAN — Even though top grades are part of the equation, it may take more than grades alone to be named valedictorian. Some schools may weigh other achievements as well.

as well. It is important for students to speak with a guidance counselor about their school's requirements to be named valedictorian. Once these qualifications are determined, students eager to compete for the top prize can do the following.

- Take a variety of courses, including AP classes when available.
- Study and do well on exams and in-class assignments.
- Do not be afraid to take risks and challenge oneself.
- Maintain a good rapport with teachers and seek extra credit when available.
- Maintain an optimistic outlook even when things may not be going as planned. Adapt to the situation and make changes that can bring success, rather than throwing in the towel.

Being named valedictorian is a great honor for students that may propel some to academic success for years to come.



Miss Cook...

(Continued from Page 1) raphy during her freshman year. She was a member of HOSA for four years, for which she served as secretary during her junior and senior years. She will be competing in the national HOSA competition this June. She was a four-year member of the Beta Club and the Pep Club and a two-year member of the National Honor Society. A member of the Rotary Interact Club for three years, she served the organization as head of the financial committee during her senior year. Through this club, she had many community service opportunities, including ringing bells for the Salvation Army, volunteering at Union City Rotary Relays and decorating cards for residents at the Etheridge House. Miss Cook served as Student Government secretary

all four years, as well as student council secretary her senior year. She was selected as a Union City Kiwanis Club Student of the Month, an OC Ambassador, a Girls State alternate, a participant in the Gibson Electric Membership Cooperative Washington Youth Tour after winning an essay contest and as a member of the OC Clinical Internship program during her senior year. She played tennis all four years of high school and was a member of the soccer team during her senior year. She is a member of Crosswind Church in Union City and has been employed at Lake Road Elementary School as a teacher's assistant in the ESP program since December 2017. Miss Cook plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Tennessee at Martin, then a doctorate degree at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville to become a nurse anesthetist.



Class of

2020!

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

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