

# Weakley County Schools announce academic top spots

The Class of 2020 gathered for graduation on June 12. Leading each school academically are: Dresden Valedictorian Natalie Weidenbach, Dresden Salutatorian Dryver Finch; Gleason Valedictorian Martha Wesley Nichols, Gleason Salutatorian Katie Freeman; Greenfield Valedictorian Lydia Hazlewood, Greenfield Salutatorian Kassidy Harris; Westview Valedictorian Cate Spencer, Westview Salutatorian William Spencer.



**Natalie Weidenbach,**  
valedictorian, Dresden  
GPA: 4.0  
Hometown: Martin  
Previous schools: Westview High School  
Favorite subjects: Math and Large Animal

Favorite teacher: Kim Castleman

What academic memory will stick with you? I was invited into the Duke TIP program, which allowed me to spend three weeks in Athens, Georgia. I was able to study veterinary medicine at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at the University of Georgia.

Plans after high school: I will be attending the University of Tennessee at Martin and studying animal science.

What impact has the COVID-19 crisis had on your next steps? Although the University plans on opening their campus for the fall semester, there is truly no way to tell. I will either start on campus in the fall or take classes online.



**Dryver Finch,**  
salutatorian, Dresden  
GPA: 4.0 or 100.8475  
Hometown: Dresden  
Previous schools: Dresden High School  
Favorite subjects: Anatomy and Physiology, Math, and Sociology

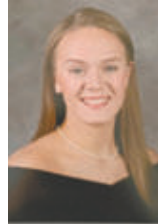
Favorite teacher: Cassie King, Stacey Lockhart, and Lauren Wilkins

What academic memory will stick with you? Two things I will always remember is winning the West Tennessee High School Ethics Bowl regional competition with my teammates and all of the 15-minute conversations at the cafeteria table.

Plans after high school: I will attend the University of Tennessee Knoxville and will be majoring in economics and political science.

What impact has the COVID-19 crisis had on your next steps? Covid-19 has changed how all of our day-to-day lives look like and has shaped how they will look in the

future. For me, it has altered how I will register for classes, the fall semester schedule, and the way classes will be held.



**Martha Nichols,**  
valedictorian, Gleason  
GPA: 4.0  
Hometown: Gleason  
Previous Schools: Greenfield School  
Favorite Subjects: English and History  
Favorite Teachers: Ms. Phyllis Gearin and Mrs.

Amy Orr

What academic memory will stick with you? An academic memory that will always stick with me is the overall love and support I received from my teachers and administrators. I would not have been able to get this far in my academic career without the support and guidance of the faculty at Gleason School.

Plans after high school: I am planning to attend the University of Mississippi in the

fall to pursue a B.A. in Political Science in hopes to attend law school after graduation.

What impact has the COVID-19 crisis had on your next steps? While the Covid-19 crisis has not affected where I will be attending college, it will probably change the way classes and campus activities are carried out, and education will likely look much different when classes return in the fall. However, the crisis has given me a much deeper appreciation for education and face-to-face learning.



**Katie Freeman,**  
salutatorian, Gleason  
GPA: 4.0  
Hometown: Dresden  
Previous schools: Gleason School  
Favorite subjects: Algebra, Chemistry, Sociology, Physics, Theatre arts

Favorite teachers: Ms. Phyllis Gearin, Coach Jason Stephens (Coach J)

**Congratulations**  
**2020**  
**Seniors**  
We are so proud of you!

**Greenfield Tennessee**

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**CLASS OF**  
**2020**  
**YOU DID IT**

The Mayor and City of Sharon are Proud of YOU!

Welcome to Sharon Est. 1901

**We congratulate the class of 2020**

**The City of Gleason**  
**Ball Clay Capital of the World**

Mayor: Diana Poole  
Aldermen: Keith Radford, Jim Phelps, Jerry "Bubba" Dunn Jr. & Doug Johnson