

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE- UHS SENIOR PROJECT

“EMPOWER each student to succeed in life and CONTRIBUTE to society.”

Congratulations to the Class of 2023! We are excited to see you finish your senior year strong and to see what your future holds. The mission of UCFSD is to “empower each student to succeed in life and contribute to society.” This year, you have the opportunity to showcase how your experience within UCFSD has prepared and shaped you for your next journey. You will do this by completing a senior project. This project will include two parts. First, you will develop a senior presentation that highlights the points of the UCFSD Portrait of a Graduate. Second, you will share with someone in our community how they have impacted your life by participating in our “Sincerely, Seniors” event in May.

Part 1: Senior Portrait Presentation

- Review the five points of the Portrait of a Graduate and guiding questions below
- Reflect on how each point has impacted your time at UCFSD and prepared you for the future. Use the guiding questions (see below) to reflect and prepare your presentation.
- Create a 10-minute presentation that reflects the points of the star
 - Be inspired to learn
 - Succeed in life
 - Build your character
 - Take care of yourself
 - Contribute to society
- You will present to at least one other person in the UCFSD community during the month of May. This person will be assigned to you.
- You may present in whatever format you choose. Examples may include:
 - Google Slide Presentation
 - Write a song, poem, or musical act
 - Share a video
 - Create a piece of artwork
 - The ideas are endless...
- Use your creativity, showcase your talents, and share with everyone aspects of your journey through UCFSD and how this has prepared you for the future.

RESOURCES:

- [Senior Portrait Presentation Planning Tool](#)
- [Project Planning Version 2](#)
- [Project Planning Version 3](#)
- [RUBRIC](#)
- [Self Assessment Rubric and Reflection](#)

Part 2: “Sincerely, Seniors” Letter

- Think about who has impacted your life positively during your time at UCFSD.
- Then, write a thank you note to faculty or staff who’ve helped you along the way.
- This person must be a member of the UCFSD staff. It could be your kindergarten teacher, bus driver, custodial staff, or anyone else who has made a positive impact on you.
- We will send the date of the event and provide all the materials needed to write your letter, so stay tuned!

GUIDING QUESTIONS

BE INSPIRED TO LEARN: The joy of learning is a lifelong process. Think about an early learning experience you had that truly required you to be a critical thinker and use your problem-solving skills.

- *What knowledge and skills did you acquire through this experience that empowered and encouraged you to become more curious in future learning experiences? How will you continue to be a critical thinker, use your problem-solving skills, and stay curious as you learn, grow to pursue your passions? How will you apply what you've learned about your skill sets to seek a better understanding of the world around you?*

SUCCEED IN LIFE: Every journey to success is personal and unique. No matter your path, there are valuable life skills that will help unlock your potential. Skills such as collaborating well with others, communicating effectively, and demonstrating leadership and teamwork are critical components to successfully navigate life, both on a professional and personal level. Reflect upon your educational journey and path toward academic and personal success.

- *What life skills have you found to be most helpful in your journey? Example? How will these skills serve you well in all settings throughout your professional and personal life? How will these life skills and your strengths be used to contribute to society?*

BUILD YOUR CHARACTER: Strong character is admired and respected. Have high standards for your own character and set an example for others. Be ethical and act with integrity. Build resilience and hold yourself accountable for your actions. Treat others with respect and empathy, and always remember that kindness matters.

- *Provide an example of a time when you faced an ethical dilemma and held true to your own personal standards regardless of what other people were doing. Describe a random act of kindness that you witnessed that inspired you. What obstacles did you face during your high school experience that pushed you to be resilient and accountable? How will you use these skills in the future? Discuss a time when kindness allowed you to look at a situation differently. What did you learn from that experience?*

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF: Your personal health and wellness are essential. Find balance in all aspects of your life and tend to your physical, mental, and social-emotional needs. Lean on your support systems and accept help when needed. Strive for lifelong health and happiness.

- *How have you enhanced your health and wellness during high school? Provide examples. Who are your support systems and what forms of communication work best for you when you are in need? What coping strategies have you found for yourself to help you manage periods of stress and how will you incorporate these strategies in the future? How will you incorporate health and wellness into the next phase of your life?*

CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY: Opportunities to make a difference are all around you. Understand your ties to the community, and embrace your civic responsibilities within it. Engage in civil discourse, especially with those whose perspectives differ from your own. Have compassion for others and give back to your community in meaningful ways.

- *In what ways have you been involved in your community? What have you learned from conversations with people who have different perspectives than you? Explain how this will help you in future conversations. Describe a time when you were in a situation where you felt that you were a "minority" and describe how that changed your perspective and actions moving forward. How will you use what you have learned to continue to give back to your community and show compassion for others?*