

Dr. Carpenter- Graduation Speech - Class of 2023 - Wednesday June 7, 2023

School Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff,, Families, Friends and the extraordinary graduating Class of 2023. Today we gather here to celebrate a milestone in your lives - the culmination of years of hard work, dedication and perseverance. As your principal, I stand before you filled with immense pride and joy.

In this year's graduation class –

- 53 senior students attended Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center. Out of the 53 students, 35 received a Certificate of Completion. 27 monetary awards were given to 25 students.
- 53 UPHS students received 66 local awards at the Senior Awards Ceremony. The total amount of money awarded was \$54,510.00.
- 2 % of students will be entering military service, as indicated by the red, white and blue cords.
- 27 % of students will be entering the workforce.
- 18% of students are enrolled in a 2 year associate degree and/or technical program.
- 49 % of students are enrolled in 4, 5, or 6, year baccalaureate or master degree programs.
- In summary, 67 % of the class will be continuing their education beyond high school.
- The class of 2023 earned over \$1,000,000.00 dollars in scholarships for their freshman year of college!

As you embark on the next chapter of your lives, remember that the road ahead may be challenging, but you are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and character to conquer it. Remember that failure is not the end but a stepping stone to success. Be bold, take risks and never be afraid to chase your dreams. Today you graduate not just as students, but as confident, compassionate, and capable individuals ready to make your mark on the world. As you leave Upper Perk, know that we will also welcome you back with open arms, as you forever remain part of our Upper Perk Family. CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!