



End-of-Year / Graduation Edition

TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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## IMPORTANT DATES:

1st Day of School  
*Monday, August 28, 2023*

Early Dismissal  
*Friday, September 1, 2023*

No School  
*Monday, September 4, 2023*

District Wide In-Service  
*Tuesday, August 22, 2023 -  
Thursday, August 24, 2023*

VISIT [TVSD.ORG/CALENDAR](https://www.tvsd.org/calendar) FOR ALL  
SCHOOL AND DISTRICT EVENTS.

**Every student. Every day.**

## TWIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES THE CLASS OF 2023

On Saturday, June 3, 2023, the Twin Valley School Board, District Administration, faculty, staff, family, friends, and members of the Twin Valley community gathered at the Santander Arena in downtown Reading to celebrate the graduation and achievements of the Twin Valley High School Class of 2023. Two hundred and forty-nine seniors walked across the stage, received their diplomas, and turned their tassels, marking the end of their high school career but the beginning of their post-secondary endeavors.

Pride, gratitude, and a sense of community were felt in the arena, with speeches focused on the great accomplishments of the graduates, their most cherished memories, and a deep appreciation for the many individuals who supported and encouraged them in their journey. Speakers also shared stories of the Class of 2023's passion for school spirit, philanthropy, and the service of others. **Mr. Gary McEwen**, Twin Valley School District Board President, shared his own wisdom and wishes for the Class of 2023, "My only advice is that whatever you pursue, make sure that it is something you enjoy doing... From the Twin Valley School Board members to the members of the Twin Valley Class of 2023, we wish you the very best and can't wait to hear about your accomplishments in the future."

In their Class Co-Salutatorian speeches, both **Anthony Engle** and **Rebecca Goldman** spoke to the adversity the Class of 2023 overcame as they navigated a global pandemic during their initial year of high school. While their class faced challenging experiences and much change, Anthony and Rebecca touted the dream of a bright future and going on to do great things post-graduation. Anthony shared, "Challenging experiences elicit profound growth and are what foster human success, which is exactly why I see the Class of 2023 of not just Twin Valley, but of all schools, going on to do big things in the real world." Rebecca compared her time at Twin Valley to a chapter in her story, "A good story is one filled with adventure, challenges, and hard decisions. As long as you keep moving forward, one step after the next, you'll have one to tell."

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**Dr. William Clements**, Twin Valley High School Principal, highlighted the importance of the day's Commencement exercises, "It is a momentous occasion where we witness the young men and women who will shape our future step into the world. It also serves as an opportunity for us to reflect on the remarkable achievements of these students and the profound impact they have had on our school and community."

Some of the most notable accomplishments of the Class of 2023 included collecting over \$53,000 in the Senior-led Mini-THON shattering this goal and breaking previous records, accruing thousands of hours of workplace experience through the District's internship program, being offered over \$4.2 million in grants and scholarships from colleges and universities, being awarded more than \$120,000 in local community scholarships, and earning numerous accolades in academics, athletics, arts, career and technical education, music, and so much more.

Thirty-eight graduates will immediately become productive members of the economy by joining the workforce. One hundred seventy-three graduates have plans to go on to postsecondary education, and five exceptional individuals from the Class of 2023 have made the selfless decision to serve our country by joining our nation's armed forces.

**Jaden Brighter**, 2023 Class Treasurer, and **Makayla Biddle**, 2023 Class Secretary, reminisced about their fun senior experiences and the many gifts they have been presented with throughout their time as Twin Valley Raiders. They concluded by announcing the 2023 senior gifts—art supplies to finish the lobby mural, new high-powered hand-dryers for fitness center locker rooms, and new name plates for all high school teachers to remember their class by.

Class Speaker, **Emma McBride**, imparted life lessons as told through the book, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. "You cannot live in your head. Find those people who bring you out of your comfort zone. Be open to new people. Care for the important people in your life, even when it is hard. Cherish all the teachers you've had and thank them for helping you get here today."

**Dr. Patrick Winters**, Twin Valley School District Superintendent, shared wisdom for the graduates through song lyrics. "In fact, if you really pay attention to song lyrics, there is a great deal of wisdom about life, wisdom that will serve each and every one of you well as you start the next chapter of life's journey." The four pearls of wisdom imparted were: #1—Don't worry. ("Three Little Birds" by Bob Marley); #2—Stick together and lean on one another. ("Stand by Me" by Ben E. King); #3—Love is a powerful emotion. ("All You Need is Love" by The Beatles); and #4—When opportunity knocks, you better be ready to answer. ("Lose Yourself" by Eminem).

**Josh Phillips**, Class President, and **Paige Borkowski**, Class Vice-President, share sentiments for the future but also reflected on the importance of community. Josh shared, "I urge you to not say goodbye to this community... Continue to create memories and experiences with the people you love around you. And most of all, don't forget

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# CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2023

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about Twin Valley, because no matter what, the school and the district of people within it will always be there for you.” Similarly, Paige said, “We have learned the value of community through countless



aspects of this school including helping the world conquer childhood cancer, connecting with others on the sports fields to play a game or run a race bigger than ourselves, reaching others through arts and music, or presenting an incredible show on stage. What all of these have shown is that no one succeeds alone; no problems are solved without each other. But when a community comes together, when people care, nothing is impossible.”

Class of 2023 Valedictorian, **Ben Meister**, wrapped up the commencement ceremony by sharing gratitude for the teachers, mentors, parents, and families who provided guidance, encouragement, and unwavering support for the Class of 2023. Finally, Ben addressed his fellow graduates, “Today marks the beginning of a new chapter in our lives. As we step out into the vast world, we must embrace change... I believe that it is important for us to remember that our education has bestowed upon us the power to make a positive impact on the world around us. Remember that success is not measured solely by material wealth or professional achievements. True success lies in making a difference in the lives of others, finding joy, and leaving a lasting legacy of compassion and kindness.”

**Congratulations to the Twin Valley High School Class of 2023! You did it!**



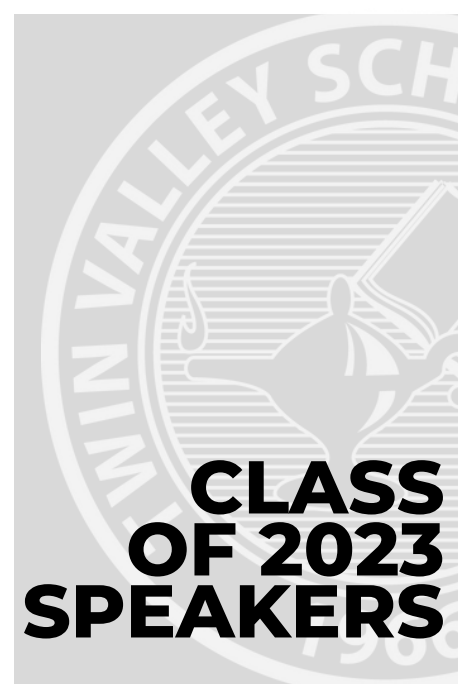


















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Robeson Elementary Center  
Twin Valley Elementary Center  
Twin Valley Middle School  
Twin Valley High School

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**Every student. Every day.**



# GRADUATE NEWS

## SENIOR GLOBAL SCHOLARS

This year, the World Language Department, with the help of a grant from the Twin Valley Community Education Foundation (TVCEF), took the steps to implement PSMLA's Global Scholars Program, and they successfully graduated five students earning the credential.

The students are: **Lydia Blankenbiller, Saadé Salaman Maclara, Kelly Fox, Lauren Goldman, and Lexi Jordan.**

The students had to have studied at least four years of the same language, complete four additional classes with a global focus, participate in at least four different globally focused activities/organizations, write eight different media reviews on globally focused literature or other media, conduct an internship or interview with an individual working in a profession dealing with culturally diverse populations, and complete 20 hours of community service in a culturally diverse setting.

The Twin Valley School District joins 20 other districts in the state, graduating a total of 143 Global Scholars. The World Language Department was excited to have implemented this program, and they hope to have more students participating in the future! The Senior Global Scholars graduated with a royal blue and green cord. They worked hard to earn this distinction, and the District is very proud of them!

## HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

