

EHS June 2024 Senior Spotlight: Meet Valeria Vèlez



It is June of your senior year of high school. These last few weeks will be very exciting. What are you most looking forward to at the end of your senior year?

I am mostly looking forward to prom and graduating with my friends and family who have already made this year special.

At the time of this interview, the Ewing High School Girls Softball team was having a pretty successful season. You have been a member of the team all four years of high school. What position do you play? What do you like about your team this year?

I play both left field and second base, but more excitingly, I am also a switch hitter. This year, my team has been such a blessing to be a part of. As soon as you step into the dugout, whether it is at practice or out on the field during games, you feel positive energy and support all around.

When you play your final softball game for Ewing High School, what thoughts or legacy do you want to leave with your teammates?

I would love for my teammates to remember that strikeouts and errors are only part of the game. Making mistakes is the only way to grow and become a player for yourself and for your team, but how you recover from those mistakes is most important. Never doubt yourself or your abilities, instead trust yourself and remember that you have an amazing team that will pick you right back up and praise your accomplishments.

Now for the academics, what is your favorite subject?

My favorite subject is Science because there is always something new to learn.

Who is your favorite teacher/coach and why?

My favorite teacher would have to be Señora Rivera. She did her absolute best to make sure that what we learned was full of engagement and understanding, which helped to keep us productive. She carried such a motherly character with us and would bring us snacks from Colombia, even brew us coffee with crackers. Señora Rivera made coming to her class every day



something to look forward to and a safe space to be in. I will forever miss being able to be in her class again.

What activities do you participate in outside of school?

Outside of school, I currently work at Nothing Bundt Cakes and have been a part of the Bridge to Employment Program (BTE). BTE has been an influential part of my high school experience, as I have been able to participate in service events and outreach programs that helped make positive changes in my community for others. I have also been a part of the Ewing Edge Softball travel team.

What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment to date?

My greatest accomplishment to date would be being inducted to be a part of the National Honor Society.

How do you define success?

Success is finding your happiness in life through your accomplishments, which only comes by maintaining a disciplined mindset and a strong relationship with God.

What is your favorite quote or book?

“God’s plan is worth the wait” - Isaiah 30:18

What is your favorite memory of high school?

My favorite memory of high school would be participating in Powder Puff.

What are your plans after you graduate from Ewing High School?

After I graduate from Ewing High School, I plan on continuing both my education and athletic career at the University of South Carolina Sumter. I will be pursuing my education in Psychology, in hopes of one day becoming a therapist for high school and college students.

What advice do you have for Fisher Middle School 8th grade students coming to Ewing High School in September 2024?

Some advice that I would give to the incoming freshman would be to be yourself and don't change for anyone. Believe that you can do whatever you put your mind to because, without believing in yourself, you can't get anywhere. Remember that a positive attitude and mindset creates great outcomes and that there's always room for improvement. Nothing is impossible.

What do you want people to remember about you after you graduate from high school?

I would like them to remember my hard work and dedication towards my accomplishments, as well as my positive and loving attitude.

