



CONNECTION

A newsletter for the Thomas Academy family
Keeping connection through communication

Summer 2018 Edition



Celebrating the Class of 2018!

“We stand here today on the beginning of the future. It’s not a distant reality anymore. It begins here. It begins today.”

As Valedictorian Anna Utterback issued this portion of the senior class challenge during the 2018 graduation ceremony held Saturday, June 9 in the Catherine V. Powell Educational Center Gymnasium, it was clear that her fellow graduates were ready.

“The graduates receiving our diplomas today are grateful for all the support received to reach this point in our lives,” said graduate Macey Savage. “Our time at Thomas Academy has enabled us to pursue our future goals. Thank you for being here to celebrate this accomplishment with us.”

The 19 graduates represent the largest class in the school’s history.

Thomas Academy Director Dr. Geraldine Bradshaw presented the Distinguished Senior Award to Avery Freeman.

Bradshaw then presented several scholarships to members of the graduating class. The

Konnoak Hills Lions Club Scholarship was presented to Roberto Rivera-Diaz and Christian Reviere; the Eleanor and Louis Puckett Memorial Scholarship was presented to Avery Freeman, Jonathan Jones, Kelly Skipper, Rebecca Yergeau and Faith Cannady; the Western Harnett Lions Club Scholarship was presented to Roberto Rivera-Diaz and Christian Reviere; the Jack and Jean Holt Memorial Scholarship was presented to Jessenia Molina; and the North Carolina District East Civitan Scholarship was presented to Macey Savage.

Savage also received the Luther and Sissy Lamb Memorial Scholarship and the Black’s Tire & Auto Service Scholarship.

Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina President Gary Faircloth presented the Anthony J. Brill Valedictorian Scholarship to Anna Utterback.

The celebration included a keynote address by N.C. Representative Deb Butler and a performance by the Thomas Academy Glee Club.



Dates to Remember

July 1 - 31 - Summer Break

August 1 - 6 - Teacher Workdays

August 6 - New Student Orientation 6 - 7 p.m.

August 7 - First Day of School 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

From the Director's Desk

We made it!

Thank you for helping to make the 2017 - 2018 school year such a success.

We had so many successes that it is impossible to recount them all here. Our students did incredibly well in our end of year testing. The middle school students rose to the challenge placed before them by the high schoolers to have everyone pass. We even had the opportunity to celebrate some of the highest scores our students have seen in their academic careers!

We presented more than 160 awards at our Awards Banquet at the end of May. It was an event that was incredibly well attended by our students, their families and friends.



The graduation ceremony was an incredible experience for all in attendance. The joy on the faces of our graduates as they accepted their diplomas will forever be in my heart. I am so proud of each and

every one of them!

Please remember, I practice an open door policy for students, staff, and parents. If at any time you have a question or concern, please call me. I can be reached on my cell phone at **910-874-1456** or by email at **geraldine.bradshaw@thomasacademync.org**. The best time for a focused conversation is after 6 p.m. as I will be able to give you my full attention. During school hours my focus is on the children.

Thank you to all involved in giving me the opportunity to grow our children.

Yours in service,

Geraldine Bradshaw

The Thomas Academy educational experience is a partnership between the teachers, students, and parents/guardians. Involvement means participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication regarding student academic learning and school activities.

How can you get involved?

- Sign up for the Remind app
- Volunteer to help at the school
- Attend the parent/guardian meetings
- Talk with your child about his or her classroom experiences
- Log into Powerschool to check your child's grades
- Reach out to teachers directly with any questions or concerns

Doc's Message to Class of 2018



“You guys came to us as a caterpillar and through hard work you found your butterfly. Now I don't want you to find a flower somewhere to settle on and just admire your wings. I don't want you to do that. I want you to use those wings to fly wherever you want to go. And somewhere you will have an impact on somebody's life.”

Dr. Tom Simmons
Vice President for Education

Connection is the newsletter for Thomas Academy designed to uphold the commitment to connection through communication. It is distributed once a month during the academic year to provide continuing updates on the happenings of the school. To remain connected between issues, visit the website at www.thomasacademync.org and become a fan on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ThomasAcademyNC/