

# Time for the WCHS Class of 2026 to soar

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The Washington County High School class of 2026, consisting of 168 students, has officially closed this portion of their lives here in Springfield, and now the only place to go is up.

These students entered their newest chapter at the end of an organized ceremony. The ceremony had musical guests like the Washington County High School Choir, Hailee Coulter, and a group performance by Noah Campbell, Cecilia-Ellen Higdon, Wyatt Nelson, Eion Roberts, and Salvador Samudio.

Surrounding the musical performances were a variety of speakers, some of which came from the graduating class such as Brandon Cheser, Xavien Keene, Eion Roberts, and Charles "Evan" McIlvoy, along with speeches from Salutatorian Ashtyn Baker and Valedictorian Jacob Piasecki. Many staff members guided the program like Superintendent Dr. J. Robin Cochran, Interim Principal Malissa Hutchins, fellow assistant principals, and various members of the Washington County Board of Education.

Students were decked out in their regalia and their special recognition cords and stoles. Both of these items represented different groups, teams, and activities the students had participated in over the course of the past four years.

Once the tassels had turned as the graduating class was led by classmate, McIlvoy, their caps were tossed and this book closed for these students. From here some will attend cosmetology school, others colleges in and outside of the state. No matter where these students end up, they will always have their history of Washington County High School beside them.



JENNA GEORGE/The Springfield Sun

Talking about mosaics, and the way everyone is unique, Salutatorian Ashtyn Baker shares her message Friday evening with the graduating class, faculty, and staff of Washington County High School.



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During the ceremony on Friday, the newest graduating class of Washington County High School tossed their caps in joy as they celebrate their achievement.



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One of the musical guests performing during the WCHS graduation program was a quintet made up of students from the senior class. These students were able to showcase their talents one final time before walking across the stage at their commencement.



JENNA GEORGE/The Springfield Sun

While each student crosses the stage, they receive a handshake along with their diploma cover, officially marking another step in their journey to completing high school.



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Valedictorian Jacob Piasecki addresses his class about their journey, and how much the world will now be opening up to them.

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