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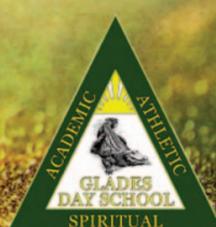
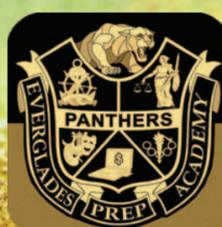
Everglades  
Preparatory  
Academy

Glades Central  
High School

Glades Day  
School

Pahokee High  
School

# Graduation Keepsake



## High school sports programs attempt to manage lost time

By Richard Marion  
Lake Okeechobee News  
BELLE GLADE- When Governor Ron DeSantis announced that school would be closed until at least March 30 due to COVID-19, the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) left open the possibility that spring sports could continue in May.  
“Pending schools are back in session and afforded the opportunity to resume activities after May 3, by federal, state and local authorities, the FHSAA will follow the advice and guidance available to us at that time regarding the continuance of all FHSAA spring sports,” read the statement released by FHSAA on March 31. “In light of the current situation, the FHSAA staff is actively working on creative solutions for the continuance of spring sports, which could extend through June 30.”

But on April 20, two days after Gov. Ron DeSantis announced that schools would remain closed for the 2019-20 academic year, the FHSAA broke the bad news about spring sports.

“It is with heavy hearts that the FHSAA has decided to cancel all FHSAA affiliated events, inclusive of the state series and all championship events, for spring sports,” said the FHSAA in a press release. “The safety of our student-athletes, coaches, officials, and fans is our top priority. With the evolving threat of the COVID-19, we must ensure that we do not contribute to the spread of this illness. We are deeply saddened for our student-athletes who have seen their seasons and high school careers end so abruptly.”

The unexpected end to the season crushed senior athletes in the area.

“They’re struggling with wanting to be on the baseball field,” said Glades Central baseball coach Rene Leon of his team after the announcement. “We communicate about three to four times a week, and I’m just trying to keep them lifted up during this time. Just letting them know that everything is going to be all right. I’ve been encouraging my seniors to finish strong in school.”

The Raiders baseball program was coming off a successful season last year. For the first time in the program’s history, the Raiders were able to beat Glades Day. After falling to the Gators every year, not only did the Raiders beat them in 2019, they swept them, winning 9-6 and 5-4 in two games about a month apart.

“I can’t categorize any memories and decide what has been the best,” said Raider senior four-year letterman Oday Shatara. “Every single moment I’ve spent with the team was enjoyed immensely, and the impact coach Leon made on me will follow me forever. My four years of high school baseball will definitely be a part of the best times of my life. I’ll cherish every single moment.”

Newly hired Glades Central football coach Rashad Jackson now has the tough task of shaping a



Everglades Preparatory Academy senior Frankie Burgess signed a letter of intent with the University of Maryland.

Raiders team that can’t meet in person.

“Daily I motivate the kids daily with encouraging words,” said Jackson on what he’s doing to keep players involved. “I encourage the boys to stay active and workout. We use Google classroom for an educational standpoint on learning the scheme and systems.”

Pahokee head coach DJ Boldin was impressed with the hire of Jackson, but doesn’t envy the job he has now of building a program during a pandemic.

“Rashad is a good hire for GC,” said Boldin. “He’s young and has fresh ideas. I actually feel kind of sorry for him because he didn’t get a spring and there’s no telling when we can officially get with the kids in the summer. His team’s first time in pads is going to be July 27 and then he has a game less than a month.”

Boldin is facing those same problems with his Blue Devils.

“I felt really good going into the next season with anticipation of us having a great spring but due to the coronavirus the future is blur at this point,” Boldin explained. “I am optimistic about the upcoming season but I am eager to get back on the gridiron to observe what we have but only when it’s safe to do so.”



Everglades Preparatory Academy senior Delonus “Scooter” Kabir was awarded a scholarship to Florida A&M University.

## Everglades Prep sends 40 off with diplomas

By Chris Felker  
Lake Okeechobee News  
PAHOKEE — The forty graduates of the Everglades Preparatory Academy Class of 2020 participated in an actual, not virtual, commencement exercise this year.

The unique school stands out in Palm Beach County not just for that reason, though; it’s different from most public or its fellow charter schools in lots of other ways, too. A young institution, it’s educated more than 200 kids who have graduated since 2012.

Principal Linda Johnson-Earsley is proud of each and every one, but wanted to highlight how many of EPA’s student-athletes will be going on to play college football. “Of my 10 football players: two are currently enrolled in Syracuse University, and one enrolled at the University of Maryland; (others will attend) Florida A&M University, Alabama A&M University, Florida Atlantic University and the list goes on from the Marine Corps to

security guard academy,” she said.

Even though it’s been a very trying time for educators in general since the coronavirus pandemic became urgent in this country in early March, she said they’ve been able to anticipate and transition well to “distance learning,” as they’ve been conducting classes online since March 13, shortly before the governor’s first stay-at-home order.

The principal described the EPA student body as “a diverse population ... running the gamut from athletes and scholars to individuals who are interested in enlisting in the services.”

“As you know, in the Glades, we’re known for athletes and we happen to be a small school with a big mission, and that is to make sure our students are afforded not only an opportunity to attend a college, but with a scholarship specifically for their athletic ability, and also to attain and receive a scholarship for academics,” she stated.

“So I’m proud to say that out of all of our students, 90 percent ... have attained some kind of

confirmation for continuing their education at an educational or vocational training institution.”

Ms. Johnson-Earsley said all their students are from the Glades region. But EPA is different for another reason.

“Our students are the top athletes from both high schools here in the Glades. They play for Glades Central and Pahokee high schools. A lot of times what happens — after football season, or at the beginning of the school year — is, if a student feels as if they cannot reach their academic goals, they then make the choice to come to Everglades Prep. That’s, I would say, over 60 percent of our population,” the principal explained.

She said by doing that, they are opting for smaller class sizes and “the ability to have more individual consultation and support from their teachers and administrators.”

“It’s a small school, but we don’t minimize that. Everything that is required from a traditional public school is required of us as well,” Ms. John-

son-Earsley went on.

“We have students who were enrolled in our school and graduated from our school who play for schools like Wellington, Seminole Ridge, Palm Beach Central and the Glades schools. But one thing they’re missing when they (the public schools) talk about them — and I understand because we don’t have a football program — a lot of the credit is given to the schools where they play football. But we’re the school where they attend, they get the academic part of their life completed, so basically that is the ability for us to serve kids within our community.”

The EPA has educated over 1,300 children since its inception in 2002, and has been recognized for having the highest graduation increase rate among African American students in Palm Beach County. Its charter has been renewed until 2027, and over 430 of its students have participated in Anquan Boldin Foundation and Florida Crystals Summer Camp since 2010.

## Top 20% of GCHS grads of Class of 2020

By Chris Felker  
Lake Okeechobee News

BELLE GLADE — The top graduates of the Class of 2020 from Glades Central Community High School, as listed by Dr. Josette Bell-Smith, assistant principal, are:

- Patriana Vickers: Valedictorian; GPA, 4.89; University of Florida – ROTC.
- Megan Wright: Salutatorian; GPA, 4.40; University of Florida.
- Gema Cervantes: Top 10%; GPA, 5.33; Florida Atlantic University (FAU); Associate’s Degree, May 2020; will graduate Summa Cum Laude from Palm Beach State College (PBSC).

- A’Niyah Miller: Top 10%; GPA, 5.22; University of Florida; graduated PBSC Summa Cum Laude, Associate’s Degree, December 2019.
- Gertride Delhomme: Top 10%; GPA, 5.04; Florida A&M University (FAMU); Associate’s Degree, May 2020; will graduate Summa Cum Laude from PBSC.
- Ronteria Joseph: Top 10%; GPA, 4.82; Florida State University (FSU).
- Michely Julno: Top 10%; GPA, 4.80; FSU; Associate’s Degree, May 2020.
- Nathalie Perez Hernandez: Top 10%; GPA, 4.79; Associate’s Degree, August 2020.
- Josue Urbina Casco: Top 10%; GPA, 4.75; Loyola University, Maryland; Associate’s Degree,

- August 2020.
- Denise Barrera: Top 10%; GPA, 4.62; FAU – ROTC; Associate’s Degree, May 2020; will Graduate Cum Laude from PBSC.
- Angel Alfaro: Top 10%; GPA, 4.568; University of South Florida.
- Immelda Aloupton: Top 10%; GPA, 4.566; FAMU.
- Oday Shatara: Top 10%; GPA, 4.45; University of Central Florida.
- Madelynn Moore: Top 10%; GPA, 4.37; FAMU.
- Steeve Africain: Top 10%; GPA, 4.36; UF; Associate’s Degree, May 2020.
- Sulvamette Sylvain: Top 10%; GPA, 4.35; FAMU; Associate’s Degree, May 2020; will graduate

- Summa Cum Laude from PBSC.
- Kyla Lewis: Top 10%; GPA, 4.28; FAMU; Associate’s Degree, May 2020; will graduate Summa Cum Laude from PBSC.
- Da’Jah Willingham: Top 10%; GPA, 4.27; UF; Associate’s Degree, August 2020.
- Cal’vonshay Key: Top 10%; GPA, 4.25; Stetson University; Associate’s Degree, May 2020.
- Jesus Alvarado: Top 10%; GPA, 4.166 University of Central Florida.
- Fabio Louis: Top 10%; GPA, 4.165; University of South Florida.
- Rosinette Flezinord: Top 10%; GPA, 4.14; UF.

# COVID-19 crisis changed everything for Class of 2020

**By Katrina Elsken**  
Lake Okeechobee News

In the fall of 2019, area high school seniors started the year with the normal hopes and expectations for their senior year, with the full school calendar of sports, club and social activities normally associated with the final year of high school. The school year started as expected. Students enjoyed the fall semester with Friday night football games, other sports, crowning the homecoming royalty, band competitions, rodeo, spending time with friends and all of the other activities that fill a high school senior's calendar. In January, those who pay attention to international news started hearing about an outbreak of a new (novel) coronavirus. On Jan. 11, China reported the first known death, a 62-year-old man in Wuhan. On Jan. 20, the World Health Organization reported cases outside China. The following day, the United States announced the first confirmed case in Washington state. On Jan. 30, WHO declared a global public health emergency with more than 9,000 cases reported worldwide. Travel restrictions were put in place. Cruise ship passengers found themselves quarantined. On Feb. 11, WHO officially named the virus COVID-19. As concerns about the spread of the virus grew, communities debated the best course of action in regard to public events. The traditional handshake

greeting was discouraged. Increased hand washing was encouraged.

February fairs and festivals continued as planned in South Florida. The Okeechobee Music Festival went on as scheduled over the first weekend in March, with extra hand washing stations and health notices.

Stores sold out of hand sanitizer and toilet paper.

By the second week in March, Florida communities made some hard decisions to cancel public events, since the virus appeared to spread at mass gatherings. The Okeechobee County Fair was canceled the day before it was scheduled to open. The Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show moved online.

Some schools started spring break a week early. Others extended spring break to two weeks.

When they left for spring break, students did not know they had left the classrooms for the remainder of the school year.

School officials spent the extended spring break coming up with plans for "distance learning." Schools provided students with computer tablets. Teachers scrambled to put together lessons for online classes. Parents found themselves supervising their children's lessons.

At first, both the schools and local officials did not know how long the "social isolation" period would last. They hoped to return to school in April, and then in May, and finally declared students would not return until the fall semester ... at the earliest.

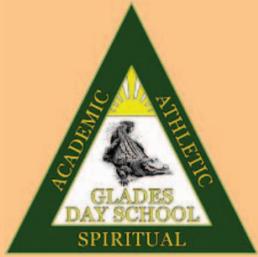
Traditional "senior year" activities such as



September 2019: Pictured are 2019 Mr. Glades Central High School Johnathan Moore and Miss GCHS Emya Jones during the September Homecoming Parade.

prom, honors awards night and grad night were canceled or moved online. The local communities tried to make things a little more special for the graduates by putting up signs and organizing "adopt a senior" programs.

With this special keepsake section, the *Lake Okeechobee News* congratulates the Class of 2020 on a successful completion of an unusual and challenging senior year, one never to be forgotten.



## Glades Day School

*Photos courtesy of Moya Photography*



*Ashlyn Bifolck*



*Jonathan Bolanos*



*Lane Collins*



*Cade Congleton*



*Bryce Davis*



*Allison Deaton*



*Olivia Esquivel*



*Alejandro Garza*



*Bryce Jordan*



*Scott Kane*



*Kendall Kennedy*



*Anabel Martinez*



*Morgan McNeill*



*Anthony McPhee Jr.*



*Julie Mineo*



*Victor Perez*



*Lorenzo Powe*



*Brandon Schoenfeld*



*Joy Sweet*



*Tyler Tamanini*



*Roman Thompson*



*Brady Wilkins*



*Chloe Wilson*



**Congratulations,  
Class of 2020!**

*From the staff of*

**Lake Okeechobee News**

107 SW 17th Ave, Okeechobee  
**863.763.3134**



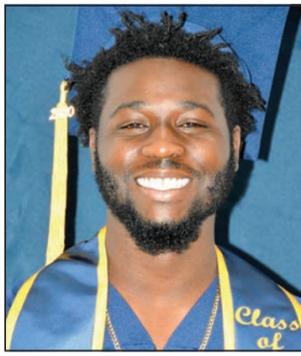
# Everglades Preparatory Academy



Ah'Marria M Boldin



Kenarwis Dwight Bowles



Anthony K Brockman



Kelvin Leon Brown



Frankie Lee Burgess



Keaunte' Bush



Chemoiya Z Clark



James C Davis



Katiana Delva



Jonathan Le'Charles Demezier



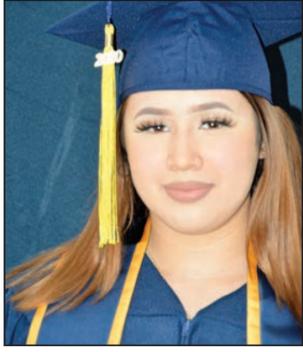
Na'Kersteris Anquetta Demps



De'Ante Dumelle



Danesha Marquisha Felton



Brianna Gallegos



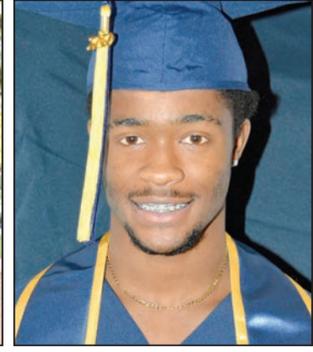
Lamonte Deandre Graham



Alyssa A Granados



Ke'Nya Lashawndra Hodges



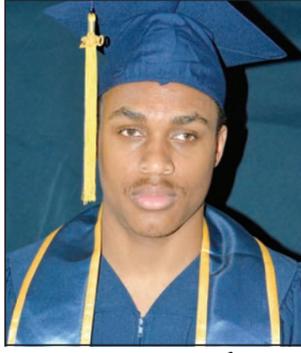
Johnny Jones



Willie Jones III



Delonus Lee Kabir



Latarie Kinsler



Saharis Kinsler



Barry Louis



Tillana Louissaint



Tyjuan McCoy



Ka'Najah Anterria Moorer



Alexander J Ramirez



Annamarie Ramirez



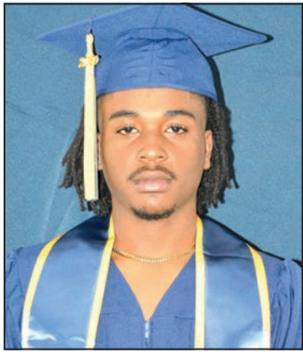
Jermaine Devonta Roberson



Briona Roman



Freddie Spear



Ivin Spencer



Siuna V Stone



Celina Vital



Cliften Walker



Desna Washington



Chris'Shaun A Williams



Savontae Williams



Jaylon D Williams



Ty'Terrian Williams



# Glades Central High School

## Choreographed commencement delights parents, grads

**By Chris Felker**  
Lake Okeechobee News

BELLE GLADE — The Glades Central High School virtual graduation ceremony went live online on the Palm Beach County Schools Network website on Friday evening, June 5, at 6:30.

Quite a concerted effort of choreographing went on behind the scenes both inside GCHS and in the school board's office complex in West Palm Beach. It took a big team, both to set up the logistics of getting 202 graduates together for senior awards, cleanup, dropoff, pick-up and a cap, gown and diploma distribution procession, and then to put together the video presentation. This all took place during the past week at the school.

GCHS Principal Melanie Bolden-Morris said the procedures to make it all happen were shaped on the fly, in a blur, and yet they came together as well as they might have, had they been planned last fall without any interference from a world-wide pandemic and resulting near-panic that have wreaked havoc everywhere this year.

She explained that they had to coordinate with the school district's communications team and officials beforehand.

"They recorded our speeches here at Glades Central — my speech, my val and sal speeches, as well as the students that said the Pledge of Allegiance in the three languages, Spanish, Creole and English, and then the students performed the turning of the tassel and we had a student sing

The Star Spangled Banner," she related.

"So that was when also when the district came out, and we made arrangements for the students to come out with their masks as well as their gloves. In our media center, we had to place them strategically away from each other in various areas ... so when the team came in to record, we had them in a different room to where every one of the kids pretty much would say their speech without being in the same area of the other person. So I asked everyone to perform their speech and then they wrapped up at that time."

The principal agreed that it was an interesting setup, saying some students might have even had some fun doing it.

"It was approximately six kids here — no, seven on the program — and they had not seen each other since we left the school in March. They knew they couldn't hug. We gave them the CDC guidelines about distance; however, they were so excited to see each other, as well as the team of administrators who were on campus. So it was like a reunion but it was a distant reunion!" Ms. Bolden-Morris said, chuckling.

It was a memorable and even kind of special week of such small gatherings. Then there was a

big parade!

But emotions were definitely mixed as they are at any high school graduation, just not as mixed up all together.

"A few of the kids shed tears because they knew that it was probably going to be the last time that they would be in this building — because they haven't been allowed to come back, only just to come in and record their speech and then leave."

"So they had the opportunity to walk the hallway in a specific part of the school one last time. It was emotional for a few of them, it really was," she said.

"We distributed dipomas Monday, June 1, to the seniors, so that was like a parade of cars coming through the campus, returning Chrome-Books, equipment, uniforms, textbooks and picking up their cap and gown, their stoles, their medallions, certificates. Some students even picked up their scholarship checks in specific amounts from various companies. So it was an awesome day June 1st. The children decorated the campus so nice, and there were so many tears. It was just great."

Not only that, it lasted for hours ... but at least

it wasn't raining that day,

"It did last almost all day ... I tell you, I had sun-burn. But I prayed, and He answered my prayers. (Rain) was definitely a concern, so we were equipped with tents so the cars still could come through; however, it was so beautiful on campus."

"We had balloons and our various school color flags all over the campus; we had nice palm trees decorating the entrance as they came in on campus. It seemed like the red carpet, and we just laid it out for them," Ms. Bolden-Morris continued happily.

"There were a few kids who came in their convertibles with their parents, and you could see the joy and the surprise at how well the campus was decorated on their behalf," she said.

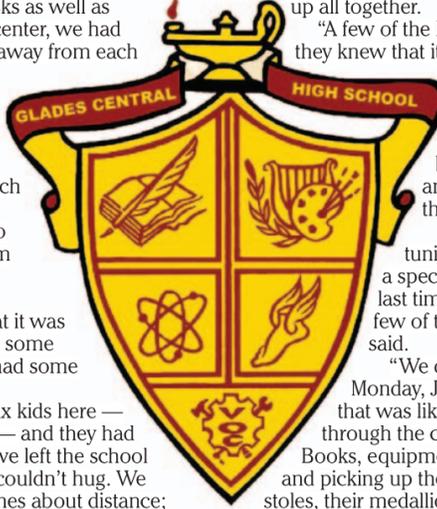
The graduation video can still be seen online at palmbeachschools.org/graduation2020/virtual\_graduation\_2020\_archive. All YouTube videos for Palm Beach schools have been posted.

Parents and others have been pleased with the arrangements GCHS and the school district made.

On the school's Facebook page, someone with the handle "Shy Ray" posted this remark after the June 1 events: "It was really Nice today ... Thank You all for Everything ... God Bless You All!"

The school's webmaster commented: "Thank you. Our students deserved even more, but administration and staff did their best to make it a special experience!" ...

to which Shy Ray replied, "Well Done," with a heart symbol.



Zaher Abdo



Tyler Abercrombie



Steve Africain



Estefania Alcalá-García



Carmen Alcalá



Patricia Alcalá



Angel Alfaró



Immelda Aloupton



Jesús Alvarado



Jasmine Annastal



Bernstorffer Anulyse



Denise J Barrera



Abdiasma Belony



Leviticus Bennet



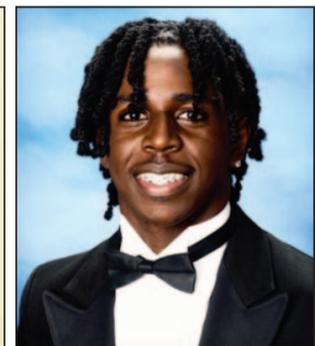
Selah Zion Blair



Celimarry Borjas



Jaheim Brown



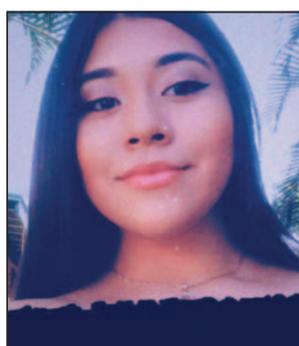
Kevin Brown, Jr.



Ariel Burks



Mariah Bynes



Yamilet Cano Barrera



Willeshia Canty



Josue I Carrizales



Anga'neka Carter



Khiarra Carter



Frero Casimir



Lobideline Celestin



Gema Cervantes



Melissa Cervantes



Rose Cineus



*Mariana Cisneros*

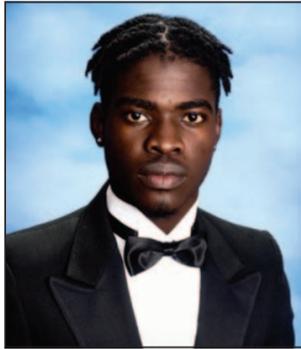
*Carmen Clarke*

*Saul Conzuelo*

*Antkeria Crawford*

*Mariyane David*

*Stherline Delva*



*Gertride Delhomme*

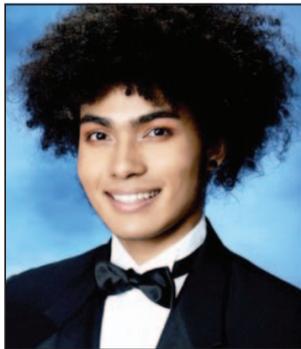
*Terwenms Desruisseaux*

*Edson Deterwil*

*Isaiah T Drummer*

*Reginald Dunning*

*Moise J Estime*



*Zakiya Evans*

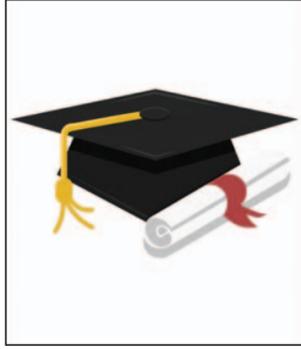
*Tedly Eximon*

*Dariel Fermin*

*Rosinette Flezinord*

*Guadalupe Fonseca*

*Alonda E Fortune*



*Sojakim D Francois*

*Nathanael D Francois*

*Da'kevious Freeman*

*Diego J Garcia*

*Vanishingson Genelus*

*Wilnaziah Gibson*

**UNSTOPPABLE**

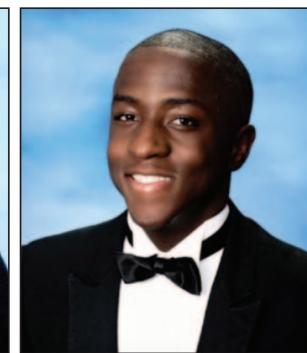
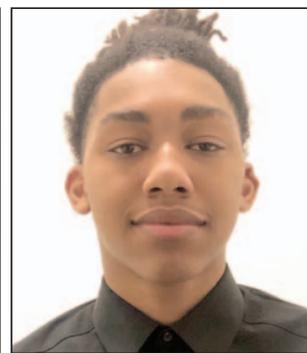
**UNBREAKABLE**

**UNDEFINABLE**

*Congratulations,*  
**Class of 2020!**



**FURNITURE**  
APPLIANCES & BEDDING



*Marquice Jaquan Greer*

*Amation Haliburton*

*Denzel Hamilton*

*Sanshae Harrell*

*Ahmaud Jamar Herman*

*Araceli Hernandez*



*Javier Hernandez*

*Michelle Alexis Hernandez*

*Tamya C. Humphrey*

*Joniquella Sharnai Jackson*

*Ruben Nolan Jackson*

*Cavendish Jean-Baptiste*



*Lavon Jean-Baptiste*

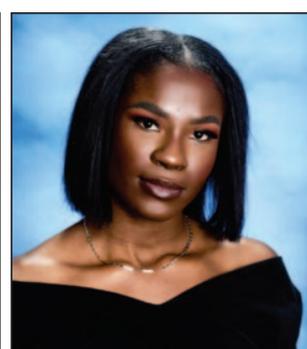
*Aahmah Jenkins*

*Jasmine Jenkins*

*Emya Jones*

*Myriam Joseph*

*Rontavius Joseph*



*Ronteria Joseph*

*Schinay Joseph*

*Ivan Suarez, Jr.*

*Juan Luc Coc*

*Michely Sulno*

*Calvinshary Kery*



*Wildjebb Lamy*

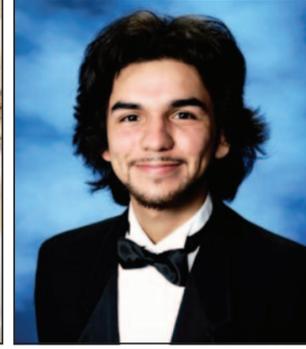
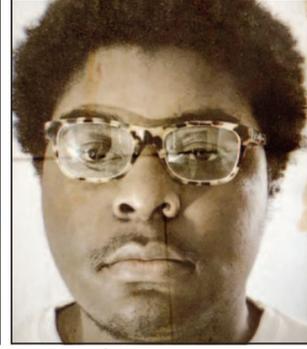
*Yawanda Larioux*

*Mymenchelle Laurent*

*Aldajah Sanae Laws*

*Orwinsky Legros*

*Yeniselle Leon*



*Jada Aaliyah Lewis*

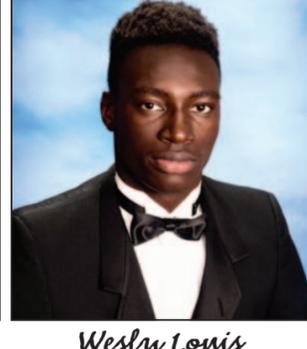
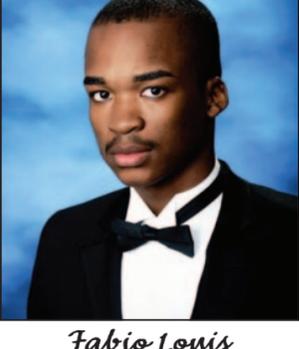
*Nealorris Lewis*

*Librado Lopez, III*

*Jailene Lopez*

*Liana Loud*

*Christine Louis-Jeune*



*Fabio Louis*

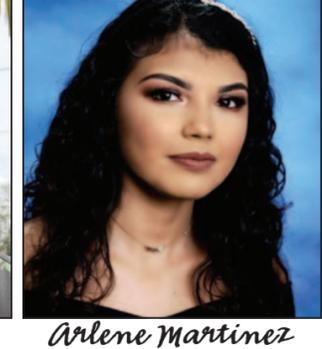
*Wesley Louis*

*Rosa Macias*

*Brandy Maitre*

*Iracelis Malboa*

*Yency Maldonado Hernandez*



*Lorena Maldonado*

*Annai Marquez*

*Miguel Marquez*

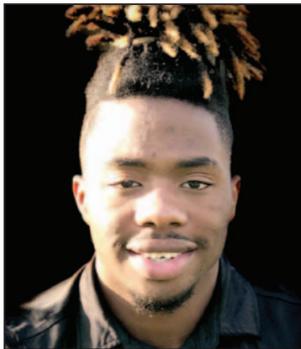
*Khaliyah Martin*

*Juan Martinez Resendez*

*Arlene Martinez*



*Ken'dra McBride*



*Antrone McCants III*



*Adrian McDonald*



*Eutiche Daina Meme*



*Amber Mercier*



*Saviola Metellus*



*Betina Michaud*



*Kenley Michel*



*Chrisnaldo Milfort*



*Dionica Milfort*



*A'niyah Miller*



*Kyle Miller*



*Miriam Mojica*



*Kimberly Montiel*



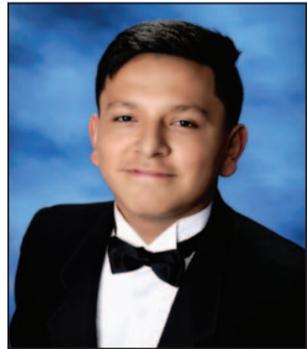
*Johnathan Moore*



*Madelynn Moore*



*Jennifer Morales*



*Oscar Morales*



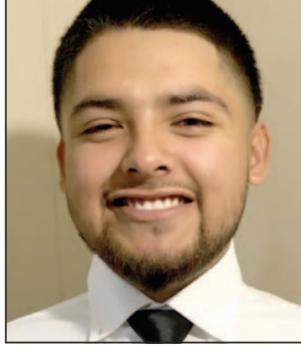
*Marion Moreland*



*Rinaja Lynn  
Mussenden*



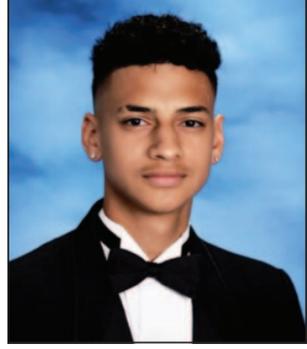
*Patriannah Oliver*



*Rolando Olvera*



*Andrea Ortega*



*Teodoro Alexander  
Osegueda*



*David Pace*



*Kalei Peele*



*Nathalie Perez  
Hernandez*



*Ivan Perez*



*Chaina Petit-Frere*



*Jahmya Philpart*



*E'cara Polk*



*Ro'maud Porter*



*Mahogany Putmon*



*Alberto Real*



*Anthony Reyes*



*Arlaunnya Robinson*



*Jazlyn Robles*



*Alex Rodriguez*



*Cristian Valentin  
Rodriguez*



*Lisete Rodriguez*



*Marcos Antonio  
Rodriguez*



*Luisa Rojas*



*Karina Roman*



*Freddy Ruiz*



*Janet Segura*



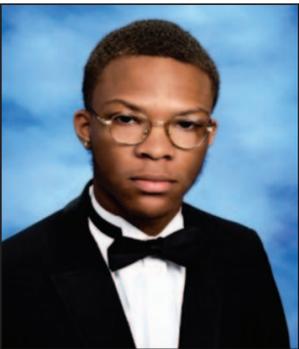
*Odary Shatara*



*Ke'annna Beyounce  
Smith*



*Kyla Solé Lewis*



Ollie Spear



Lovely St Victor



Jarace Stephenson



Daniel Stewart



Shakera Stewart



Ernesto Suarez



Dajiah l'mon Summerall



Sulvamette Sylvain



Danielle Alexandria Taylor



Kimberly Thelemarc



Bodkerson Thelemarque



Tyrika Thicklin



Sonnie Thompson



Josue Urbina Casco



Venanza Floyd Vereen III



Jonathan Vickers



Jorim Vickers



Patriana Vickers



Ke'asia Walker



Kimia Tyeisha Walker



Breanna Williams



Dajah Willingham



Vinnesha Woods



Megan Wright

**Building Our Heritage on Community Pride**

*Congratulations Belle Glade and Pahokee Classes of 2020!*

*We are Proud of You!*



*Belle Glade*





# Pahokee High School



*Mariarresie Aborytes*



*Juan Aguirre*



*Juan Alcaraz*



*Misler A lens*



*Cristo Alfaro*



*Arely Alpizar*



*Daisy Arguello*



*Andrea Arroyo-Castro*



*Homero Baltazar*



*Nicole Barrios-Sanchez*



*Shi Mya Battle*



*Arianna Benjamin*



*Tamarick Best*



*Ta Michael Boldin*



*Ka Naya Boldin*



*Iliana Bother*



*Octavious Bouie*



*Destiny Brockman*



*Adrian Brown*



*Quaciera Brown*



*Bobby Bryant*



*Jalen Burgess*



*Imelda Cardenas*



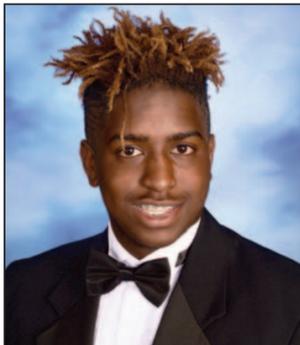
*Roberto Castro*



*Jimena Corrales*



*Ewoski Cunningham*



*Caleb Darlington-Stanford*



*Arianna Darville*



*Keonna Davis*



*Lamiracle Davis*



*Jada Dean*



*Rashel Diaz-Hernandez*



*Senard Edmond*



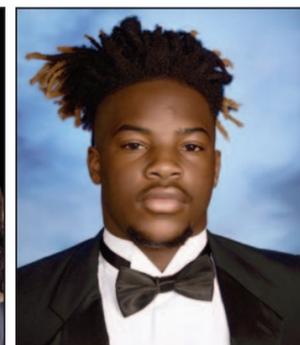
*Litzi Estrada-Martinez*



*Cor Laja Ferguson*



*Noemi Fonseca*



*Jac Gadson*



*Melanne Garcia*



*Noel Gil*



*Cittaly Gonzalez*



*Daniela Gonzalez*



*Johana Gonzalez*



*Deandre Harden*



*Michelle Hernandez*



*Claritza Hernandez*



*Emanuel Herrera*



*Jonathan Hicks*



*Bhaney Herrera*



*Arilyah Huggins*



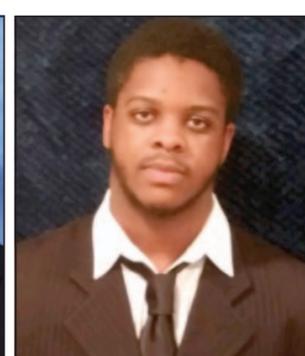
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*Symphone Humphrey*



*Arman Irons*



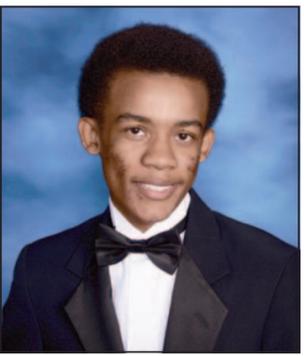
*Jahmad Ivery*



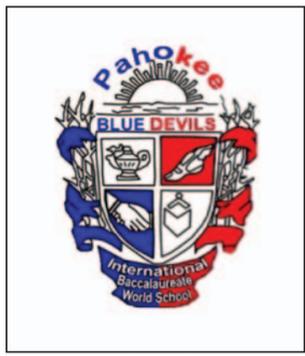
*Jermaine Jackson*



*Tzajhai Jefferson*



*Ronald Jemmott*



*Denzel Johnson*



*Dwyane Johnson*



*Tamyia Johnson*



*Janaiya Jones*



*Antonio Kelly*



*Jenny Lafalaise*



*Tavares Lawler*



*Selina Liriano-Maradiaga*



*Keltavious Lowe*



*Fabian Machaen-Arredondo*



*Ana Machaen*



*Lesley Martinez*



*Melanie McAuley*



*Demetrius McKinney*



*Valentin Montano*



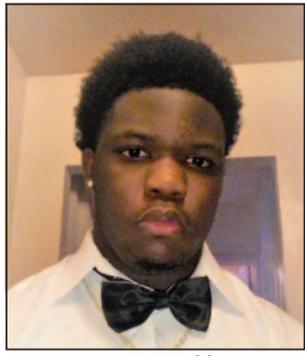
*Kaylan Montes*



*Laquid Moore*



*Kamya Mullins*



*Kerry Mullins*



*Samuel Murwin*



*Emmanuel Nava*



*Daisy Navarrete*



*Dennis Ortiz*



*Antonio Pantoja*



*Alan Perez*



*Zycorery Phillips*



*Corey Polk*



*Alexia Prieto*



*Jose Prieto*



*Jose Quesada*



*Samantha Quinones*



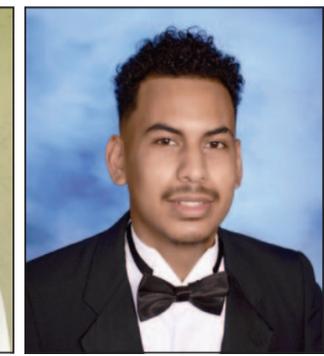
*Ivana Ramirez*



*Lisabeth Ramirez*



*Antonio Robertson*



*Alexis Rodriguez*



Osdany Rodriguez

Reidel Rodriguez

Armando Sandoval

Briana Scarlett

Gavin Sears

Helen Serwin



Jer Naris Seymour

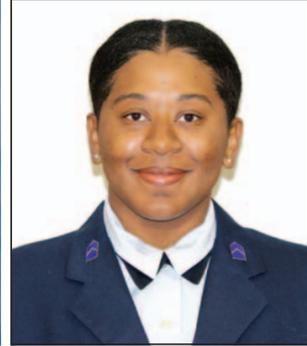
Joseph Techler

Eniyah Thames

Roy Thompson

Orlando Vega

Jean Voltaire



Jordn Walkes

Jacara Whitfield

Philnecia Whitfield

Angel Williams

Bakari Williams

Jairi Williams



Janayia Williams

Kamaria Williams

Takaili Wilson

Antensia Woods

Aryan Yanez

Farjana Yasmin

# Pahokee High School participates in online ceremony

By Chris Felker  
Lake Okeechobee News

PAHOKEE — The Pahokee High School Class of 2020 commenced upon their new lives in a virtual way on Tuesday night, June 2, with the airing of their graduation “ceremony” on the Palm Beach County Schools Network.

It was put on video for posterity as the soon-to-be-capped graduates came through on Friday, May 29, for a “senior check-out” ritual. “We made sure that it was really exciting for the seniors as they came through,” said Principal Dwayne Dennard the day after it aired.

It was all rolled into what he called the “virtual graduation.” Both he and former PHS football standout Anquan Boldin gave speeches, pre-recorded without audiences, of course.

It’s easy to view the entire production. Just go online to [pms.h.palmbeachschools.org](http://pms.h.palmbeachschools.org), and a “Graduation 2020” graphic comes up on the slider, where you click and it takes you to the YouTube recording: [youtube.com/watch?v=cIPsR76\\_XPc&feature=youtu.be](https://youtube.com/watch?v=cIPsR76_XPc&feature=youtu.be).

Mr. Dennard said: “I’m very proud of the students ... just in one year, to see how the students took ownership of their education. I mean, no fights, or incidents on campus all year. It was a great turnaround, and our top 20 percent

in the class, they believe in exactly what I tell all the kids. ‘We’re not here to build just students and student athletes; we’re here to build scholar students and scholar athletes.’ I also challenged them about the graduation rate. And last year’s class graduated with a 95.5% graduation rate, the highest in Pahokee history. This year’s class, the Class of 2020, will be at about 97%, we’re calculating. And I’m very proud of them.

“I just want to say that the Class of 2020 kind of set the threshold for every student trying to be scholars, because we also implemented new academic programs here, and they’re going to be very proud. Like natural grass, we put the seed in the ground but they are the ones who watered it. They are making the seed grow into a strong academic institution. So academics can be just as important; if everybody knows us for football, they’re also going to know us for academics.

“And I’m very, very proud to make that possible here at Pahokee Community High School, and I’m very proud of the Class of 2020,” he finished, inviting everyone to view the graduation online.

### Top graduates listed

Camelia M. Slydell, assistant principal and chief of PHS’s International Baccalaureate World School, listed these students as the honors

graduates of the PHS Class of 2020:

- Fabian Machaen-Arrendondo: Valedictorian; Honors Point Average, 4.97; National Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate; Community Service (400+ hours); Class of 2020 President; Student Council president; Debate Club president; and Interact Club vice president.

- Maria Aboytes: Salutatorian; Honors Point Average, 4.83; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate; Community Service (400+ hours); president of the Pahokee Dreamcatchers Club; and president of the Pahokee Interact Club.

- Antonio Pantoja: Top 10%; GPA, 4.66; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate; Community Service (400+ hours).

- Dennis Orteiz: Top 10%; GPA, 4.65; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Alexia Prieto: Top 10%; GPA, 4.58; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Cristo Alfaro: Top 10%; GPA, 4.57; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Jada Dean: Top 10%; GPA, 4.55; National Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Johana Gonzalez: Top 10%; GPA, 4.54; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Noemi Fonseca: Top 10%; GPA, 4.51; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Claritza Hernandez: Top 20%; GPA, 4.47; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Alan Perez: Top 20%; GPA, 4.45; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Citaly Gonzalez: Top 20%; GPA, 4.41 National Honor Society.

- Destiny Brockman: Top 20%; GPA, 4.37.

- Imelda Cardenas: Top 20%; GPA, 4.32; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Roberto Castro: Top 20%; GPA, 4.31; National Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate; Community Service (400+ hours).

- Arianna Benjamin: Top 20%; GPA, 4.29; IB Diploma Candidate.

- Rachel Diaz-Hernandez: Top 20%; GPA, 4.26.

- Philnecia Whitfield: Top 20%; GPA, 4.21.

- Selina Liriano-Maradiaga: Top 20%; GPA, 4.11; National Honor Society; IB Diploma Candidate.



January 2020: The 2019 Lady Blue Devils varsity basketball team started the new year strong, as they had two wins in December.

# Congratulations to the Class of

# 2020



**Everglades  
Preparatory Academy**



**Glades Central  
High School**



**Pahokee  
High School**



**Glades  
Day School**

*May your hard work and  
dedication pave the way for bright  
futures for you all!*

**FLORIDA  
CRYSTALS**

