

Looking to the FUTURE

By Bailey Priborsky

All students are asked the same question at some point in high school: What are you going to do after you graduate? It may have started out as "I am going to become a rocket scientist," and changed to "I am going to become a high school English teacher." As students get older they realize how many options there are after high school such as two and four year colleges, and the work force.

One of the main options for high school graduates is to continue onto secondary education. At Mount Vernon High School a poll of 39 seniors revealed that 86.6 percent of high school seniors planned to attend a four year college. Connor Herrmann makes up part of the large percentage who plans to attend a four-year school. He plans on going to University of South Dakota to major in Exercise Science. "In my future career it will benefit me because I'll have better opportunities to get to know people around an area and also receive a better education at a four year school," said Herrmann. The majority of seniors at Mount Vernon have chosen to continue their education with a four-year college, yet there are other options.

Another less common option is to continue for an associates degree at a two year college. At Mount Vernon High School a poll showed that only 2.6 percent of students plan to attend a two-year college. Erin Belding is a student who plans to pursue a two-year degree. She plans to attend Kirkwood Community College and major in Liberal Arts. "I want to direct movies, and if that doesn't really work out the way I want it to I'll still have the general education I got from a two year school," said Belding.

Not all seniors choose to continue to secondary education. At Mount Vernon approximately 7.7 percent of seniors plan to go directly to the work force. Morgan Reilly is one senior who plans to enter the workforce directly after high school. He plans to work at Cargill and will be working in industrial maintenance.

Whatever the plan is after high school, students pick the route that best suites them. There are many different options to be considered, and high school is only the beginning.

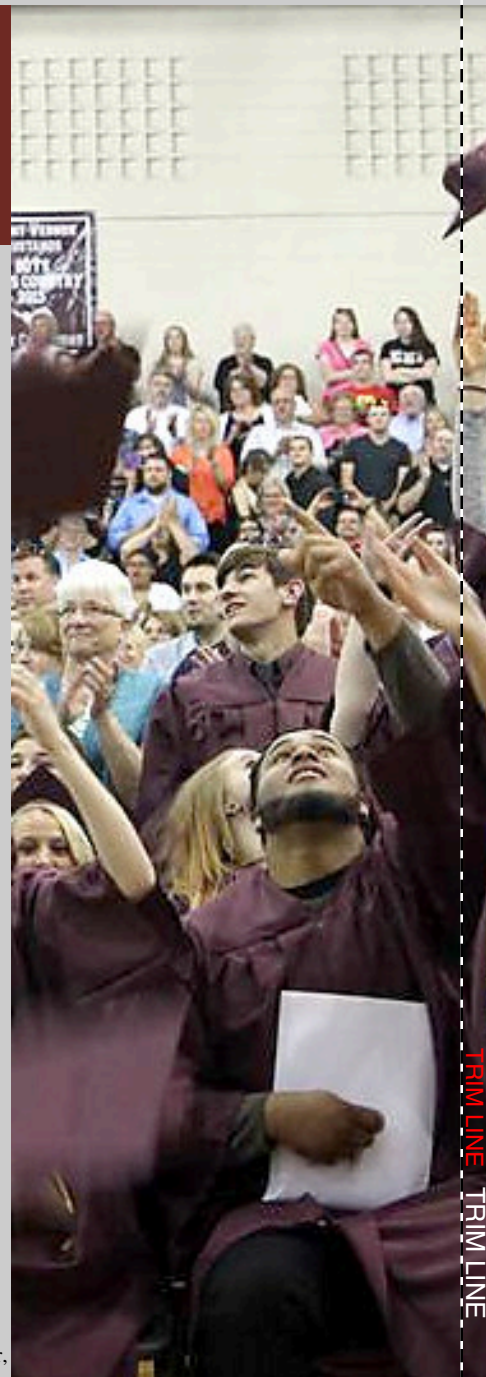
Say "Cheese!"

Below: Taking their last picture as Mount Vernon students, seniors Shaunna Palmer, Gabby Zahradnik, Victoria Martin smile.

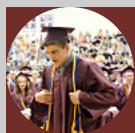


Please hold your applause until the end

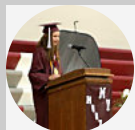
Above: Seniors Joe Corcoran and Bryce Cox applaud their marvelous guest speaker, Mark Collins.



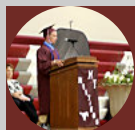
Quotes from speakers



"Constantly seek to improve in any and all areas that need improvement."
-John Engelbrecht '16



"We all worked hard to get to this day: allow this accomplishment to lead you to future achievements."
-Jenna Brannaman '16



"Anything is possible but one thing you have to do is choose your dream."
-Mickey Hines '16



Reacting to Mr. Collins' Speech

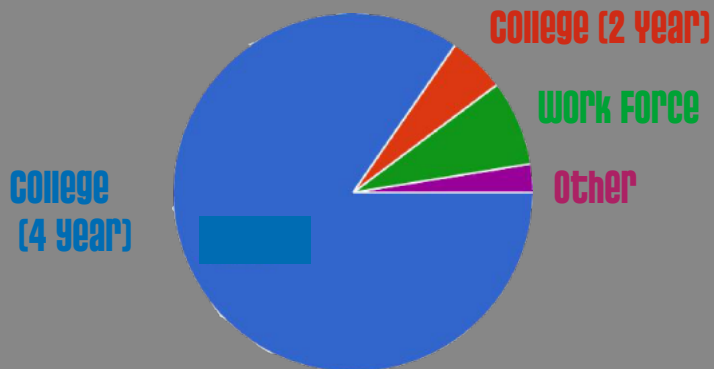
Students chose Mark Collins, a favorite substitute teacher, to be the guest speaker at commencement. Some of his statements provoked interesting responses from the crowd. Pictured are Chris Cripe, Lily Dahlstrom, Raina David, Jenny Deininger, Jaylee Delancey, and Marquis Dew. Photo by Yves Cotterill.



On Top of the World

Celebrating their job well done, seniors throw their caps into the air at the end of commencement. Pictured Marquis Dew, Delaney Dicus, and Kate Elsbury. Photo by Yves Cotterill

What are your plans after High School?



Last Moment with Friends

Above: Audrey Gothard and Adam Ketelsen pose together before commencement.

Above Left: Lynn Lewis, Anne Liberko, Amelia Logan and Isabella Logan line up in alphabetical order preparing to enter commencement.

Left: Sarah Boettcher accepts her diploma.



Saying Goodbye

Above: Receiving her diploma from her mother, school board member Denise Brannaman, Jenna Brannaman hugs her on stage.

Above Left: Waiting for the commencement to begin seniors John Engelbrecht and Ben Alger
Left: Old friends gather in the hallway to take memorable pictures. Pictured are Adam Gage, Chris Cripe, Jordan Hicks, Adam Holcomb, and Kai Walberg.

Unforgettable Memories

Above: Posing for a selfie seniors Maren Jeppson and Audrey Gothard take a memorable picture before commencement.

Above Right: Smiling with excitement old friends Marissa Roe, Haley Griebel, and Hali Rawson pose on graduation day.

Right: Guest speaker Mark Collins, a beloved substitute teacher, gestures to get an important point across during his speech.



TRIM LINE TRIM LINE

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