

“I guess we are who we are for a lot of reasons. And maybe we'll never know most of them. But even if we don't have the power to choose where we come from, we can still choose where we will go from there.”

-Stephan Chbosky

CLASS OF 2014 Cassidy Blom Nathan Boertje Alex Boots Bryce Bortscheller Ben Atkins Levi Azinger Alexis Baker Maria Belding
 Tasia Bosch Sage Brandt Karli Bruxvoort Konstantin Buchholz Bri Buzick Ethan Butler Grace Byram Anthony Bentzinger Jacob Beyer Samantha Blatt Danielle Steven
 Grant Cairney Adam Carey Haley Chapman Bryce Dawson Sydney DeJong Maddy Dingeman Ben Hardesty Tara Schuring Ashley Shuey
 Chase Chesley Chelsea Cingle Nathan Clayberg CJ Davis-Kovarik Cody Dieleman Alex Donelson Tyler Hancock Tanner Douma 2014
 Kathleen Connolly Zach Corwin Joe Criscuolo Daniel Flahive Taylor Jennings Shaylynn Reed Karter Smith
 Larissa Downs Amanda Dupre Shannon Ewing Larisa Miedema Jordan Pingel Brooke Reed Kylie Roslien Rebecca Schippers
 Emily Ebeling Greg Frommelt Chance Fryman Jacob Miedema Tristan Miedema Shelby Pfizenmaier Colton Richardson Dakota Schnell 2014
 Natalia Espinosa Abby Fyre Caleb Fynaardt Olivia Gaiser Lynnae Gray Taylor Martin Heerema Austen Rempe
 Hannah VanWeelden Aaron VanMaanen Carson Klyn Molly Kalkwarf Jacob Miedema Jordan Pingel Brooke Reed Kylie Roslien Rebecca Schippers
 Tanner Koolstra Brittany Lamb Ben Konfrst Kyle Kersbergen Braden Klyn Shelby Pfizenmaier Colton Richardson Dakota Schnell 2014
 Michael Masek Lexi McGinley Michael Moore Cein Moran Iloria Phoenix Shane Rempe Taelor Rempe Kaylyn Roose
 Mollory Lynch Hannah Martin Regan Nelson Hunter Nossaman Tom Palmer Jack Parisee Ryan Pearson Matt Peery Tanner Phelps
 Theresa Lauritsen Caleb Lee Alexander Oakland Jeffrey Olson 2014
 Sydney Swanson Gabriel Stringer Anna Tysseling Aimee Uijtermarkt Derrick Underwood Katelyn Vance
 Logan Van Brogen Drew Vandelune Carrie Vandehaar Madi VanGilst
 Brady VandeVoort Anna VanRoekel Shane VanDonselaar Garrett VanHulzen
 Cameron VanZante
 Dante Vitullo Kelse Veenstra Faith VanWingarden
 Zong Yang Randi Visser
 Klaira Wisniewski Becky Visser
 Emily Yee

One Step Into the Future

The day finally arrived for seniors to walk down the aisle and receive their diplomas. May 23, the community gathered to support and commemorate the graduating class of 2014 at the Central College Fieldhouse.

“Graduation was really eye opening and it was very emotional to see my brother finally graduate,” said sophomore **Elyse Parisee**.

Seniors **Sydney Swanson** and **Nathan Clayberg** were student speakers.

“It’s a big honor. Being chosen as something by your class is always a

big honor, but it’s even bigger when it’s for something as important as graduation. It means a lot to me, and I am grateful for the opportunity,” said **Swanson**.

Math teacher **Wade Van Vark** was the class speaker. His son, **Blake**, would have been part of this graduating class.

“High school graduation is a wonderful accomplishment and an important milestone in a student’s life, and being asked to be a part of that celebration for this class was truly an honor. This group of young people have done so much for my

family and me that I was extremely grateful to get the opportunity to do something for them,” said **Van Vark**.

Sending this class off into the real world was a sentimental moment for Principal **Eric Nelson**.

“They were the most mature, appreciative class I can ever recall. They made a connection with leaving a legacy of paying it forward, a legacy about being appreciative for what you have and not overlooking your high school experience. They were unique in that aspect,” said **Nelson**.



Grace Byram, Konstantin Buchholz



Brianna Buzick, Bryce Bortscheller



Haley Chapman, Grant Cairney



Maddy Dingeman, Zach Corwin



Shannon Ewing, Cody DeKruyff



Shelby Pfizenmaier, Tristan Miedema

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Graduates **Klaire Wisniewski, Larissa Downs and Jordan Pingel** received their diplomas at state track at Drake Stadium. Board of Education member **Gregg Gustafson** was on hand to make the presentation.



Senior **Sam Bilari** applauds speaker.



Faculty speaker **Wade Van Vark** enlightens students.



Class president **Tanner Phelps** kicks off commencement with a selfie.

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Thing You will miss

GRADUATION

"I'll just miss walking down the halls and saying 'hi' to everyone."
Senior **Alex Boots**

"I'm going to miss being done with school at 1:30 every day."
Senior **Ben Atkins**

"I made so many new friends the past few years and getting to see them and talk to them every day is what I will miss the most."
Senior **Larissa Michalek**

"I will miss seeing all of my friends like **Megan Atkins**. It will be sad not to saying 'hi' to her every day in the hallway."
Senior **Rachel Street**

"One of the things I will miss the most will be seeing my friends daily and making crazy fun memories with them."
Senior **Haley Chapman**

CAUTION!



"...Change can be a very scary thing but more times than not, it leads to something amazing. Our graduating class has a chance to do something amazing and change the world that we are living in. Don't be afraid to do something big. Take risks; do something crazy, something crazy like believing you can change the world. Even something that you may believe is small and insignificant could have a major impact on someone's life. Classmates, but more importantly friends, I thank God for every single one of you because you have all changed me and

Class Speakers

...As we all walk tonight ..., we are given the opportunity to begin to create our legacy. We are separating from our parents, and with this freedom comes the opportunity of choice. From this moment, we are all on even ground with a fresh start, and no matter where we have come from, we now have the opportunity to choose greatness Greatness does not just come about haphazardly, but rather by pointed intention. Greatness doesn't require exceptional ability or talent; all it requires is a person to decide to live their life greatly.... Are we leading the lives now that we want to be remembered by? There can be no question that the potential breadth of our influence is huge and is not a decision to be taken lightly. I wish you all the best ..., and I hope that someday the legacy left by the Pella High Class of 2014 is one that is very powerful. Thank you."



made me the person I am today. I pray that you continue to follow the path set before you and that you all realize your potential to change the world. '...Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do.' So here's to you, Class of 2014. Be crazy enough to change the world."



Kylie Roslien, Tom Palmer



Katie Meinders, Tanner Phelps



Aimee Uitemarkt, Anna Tysseling



Maria Belding, Levi Azinger



Amanda Dupre, CJ Davis-Kavorik



Olivia Gaiser, Alex Donelson

GRADUATION → 87

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