

# Senior Sendoff

By Michaela Forkenbrock

For the senior class at Lyndon High School, this year is one of the busiest, most exciting times in their lives, so far. It's full of college applications, scholarships, and an abundance of various forms to fill out in preparation for the years ahead of them. The graduating class of 2017 has managed to do all of those things, even while staying focused on their current school work.

After looking back at their previous years in high school, Grace Spencer and Cody Anschutz have realized that they do regret a few things. Cody wishes that he would have been more outgoing as a freshman and sophomore. Being shy prevented him from forming friendships with the upperclassmen. Grace is similar in the way that she was too scared to be herself, be outspoken, and outgoing. "It's something I've learned to do, and since I have, high school has been much more enjoyable."

Even though they may regret some things, many seniors remember the countless memories they made, in and out of school. A common memory among a few of the seniors was going to Europe last summer. Payton Dow and Ellie Fischer both enjoyed getting to travel to another country with their fellow classmates. Ellie's favorite part of the trip was Florence, while Payton's was Monaco. Ellie also said, "I loved playing with all the birds." Contrasting that event, Marina Payne's favorite high school memory was attending the FBLA NFLC in Omaha, Nebraska and Jasmine Kempel's was the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Atlanta. Grace enjoyed attending state forensics three years in a row and getting to hang out with all of her teammates. Cody stated that his classmates were the ones that made high school something to remember. "My favorite memory from high school would have to be just spending time with all my friends in and out of school. They have made my high school experience great and I can't thank them enough for all that they have done for me."

It is a sad, but yet also exciting time when seniors leave for college. It can also be a little stressful just trying to find the right school. On top of it, three LHS students shared their future plans. Cody plans to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to obtain a bachelor's degree in athletic training. He then plans to go on to physical therapy school to become a certified physical therapist. Attending Emporia State University to study nursing is going to be Grace Spencer. Jasmine is going to attend Wichita State University and major in Human Resource Management and Marketing.

Without teachers guiding them along the way, these LHS students would have never gotten where they are today. The seniors are in agreement that Lyndon has some of the best teachers in the state; they push students to their full potential, spend countless hours working to improve students and their work, and enrich students with great knowledge, resulting in an impact on the student body. Speaking of Mr. Kaufmann, Colton Hutchcroft said, "He is a great person in general. I've learned a lot from him. I've learned manners, how to be a great trumpet player, and to work hard and don't give up." Marina has been greatly impacted by Mr. Rice,

saying, “Mr. Rice has impacted me the most because of the values in life that he has shared in our math classes. He has helped me the most and pushed me to my limits. I have learned a lot from him and he has been an amazing teacher to me.” Miss Wilson has made an impact on Haily Chenoweth’s life. “She has always pushed me to be better. I have learned so much more than just art from her. She has impacted me so much. All of my best high school memories happened in her room. I’ll never forget what she has taught me.” Payton is on the same page as Marina, saying Mr. Rice has made the most impact on him. “He has taught me to never give up. Not just in math, but in everything. In the classroom and out. If the problem is tough, just take it head on, break it up, and look at things individually. And that is some of the best advice I have gotten in high school.” Another teacher that has impacted the senior class is Mrs. Patterson. Dalas Roberts commented, “She has always pushed me to do my best and taught me to never give up. Not to mention all her classes teach you important things about life. I’ve matured a lot as a person through her classes and FBLA and because of her I learned my love for business. Mrs. P has always believed in me, even when I didn’t believe in myself.”

Before the seniors head off in their own directions, they will spend this summer with friends and family, or like Grace, working on a rec team as a camp counselor at Maranatha Bible Camp in Everton, Missouri. She added, “I’m really excited for my summer job, and also college, obviously! I can’t wait to meet new people, be in a new environment, and experience new things.” We would like to wish continued success to all the seniors as they continue their journeys out into the real world!