

# A Word to Our Graduates



## ***John Lockhart, School Director, University Prep Science & Math***

We are tested many times in life. Our attitude allows us to approach these tests so that we can navigate them like the growth opportunities that they are. When we approach the struggle head-on, we are likely to do our best and become our best, especially when we let those who love us help us to succeed. Congratulations on graduation and achieving this milestone in life. There are more tests ahead, and your attitudes of openness, perseverance, love, and achievement will help you to become your best self.



## ***Joseph Hines, School Director, University Prep Art and Design High School***

Be cautious of entering into agreements personally or professionally with only your sight. If experience is your only teacher you will live a dangerous life. Although you are moving forward in life, there will be areas within your character that are flawed and you can't see the flaws. Ensure that you surround yourself with people or loved ones who nurture you with a balanced diet of love that includes affirmation and adjustments. The affirmation provides you with the regenerative power to move through adversity and the adjustments offer you the correction to grow to your highest self. In short, always seek perspective from Elders, Mentors, Teachers, Friends, and Parents, etc. along your journey, for their perspective is the lesson that will save your life.

“Experience can be the worst teacher because it gives the test before it presents the lesson. ” - African Proverb.



## ***Derrick Kellam, School Director, University Preparatory Academy High School***

You have just successfully completed the most challenging senior year in the history of American education. Stand tall and be proud of your accomplishments. The adaptability and persistence that you have displayed to graduate from high school will continue to benefit you throughout your life. Be steadfast in chasing your future goals and keep representing yourself, your family, school, and community with U Prep Pride! Go Panthers!



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