

NORFOLK COUNTY SCHOOLS

AT WORK



SPECIAL EDITION

GRADUATION

NORFOLK COUNTY, VIRGINIA

SUPERINTENDENT'S

MESSAGE TO GRADUATES

Dear Graduates,

Tonight, all of Norfolk County is proud of you. More than six hundred of you are receiving diplomas that represent the faith and efforts of your parents, your teachers, and your friends to equip you to live confidently in an age of many opportunities and many challenges. You leave us to go to college, to make homes, to find jobs. Whatever your goal, we have tried to prepare you for success and continued achievement.

Twelve years ago there were more than two thousand first-graders in your class. Only one of every three of those first-graders is here tonight. You are the ones who have successfully completed the graduation requirements as established by the Norfolk County School Board, the State Board of Education, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Congratulations!

Your parents are also to be congratulated. Since 1947, they have watched with pride your continuous advancement from grade to grade. They have seen you develop from a dependent child to a young adult. They have shared your disappointments just as willingly as they have shared your achievements. In many instances, your education has meant for them personal sacrifice. To them, your parents, then, you are indebted.

And we must commend your teachers for the contributions they have made toward your success. They have worked diligently as individuals and as teams to provide you with an efficient instructional program. They have guided your learning from the A B C's of the first grade to the final draft of your senior term papers. Your teachers, next to your parents, have been more interested in your progress than any other persons; and as you go forth, they will continue to follow with interest and pride your achievement. To them, your teachers, then, you are indebted.

And let us not forget your friends, the citizens of Norfolk County. They have provided you with five of the finest high-school buildings in the State. They have demonstrated their faith in you by investing in each one of you an average of \$165 a year or a total of about two thousand dollars during your twelve years of public schooling. To them, the citizens of Norfolk County, then, you are indebted.

We, your parents, your teachers, and your friends realize that though instruction ends in the classroom, your education will end only with your life. You will continue to learn and to achieve. We challenge you to do so with the desire to make America a better land for all those who will follow you. Then, to you, our graduates, the graduates of another era will be indebted.

E. W. Chittum
Division Superintendent