

David's Success Story ...

"I am Kokomo High School Class of 2020 graduate David Anderson-Penn, the son of Rachel Anderson. Kokomo Schools has prepared me for success at the college level by offering a wide variety of advanced courses, which have enabled me to earn 21 college credits. The partnership between KHS and the Kokomo Area Career Center was a blessing because those career classes enabled me to experience a taste of the architecture field.

"My career center Architecture teacher, Mr. Chris Byam was an inspiration. I was undecided about a major until Mr. Byam allowed me to explore the field of architecture. Mr. Byam was perfect for my STEM mentality because he allows students to explore independently, while utilizing the teacher when needed. I must thank my Mother for developing a high school plan prior to my freshman year that prepared me for the rigor of the higher-level classes at KHS and the dual-credit classes at the career center.

"I also took advantage of many of the extra-curricular opportunities at KHS by participating in soccer, the Karisma Show Choir, and the Bridges to College program, which allowed me to receive academic help, when needed, from retired Kokomo teachers and IUK students. I was proud to earn three varsity letters in soccer and NCC All-Academic honors, while being selected to the Indiana All-Academic Team my senior year. I also was chosen as Best Performer at three different show choir competitions.

"I plan to attend Ball State University and study Architecture and Urban Planning. I hope to become a leader in my industry by developing homes and planned communities for families, whose living spaces would include the amenities they need to feel at home. I earned a Ball State Distinction Scholar Award worth \$2,500 and a BSU Grant for \$5,000. I also wish to thank the local sponsors for my other scholarships, including Dr. Dan Hogan III Memorial (\$1,000), Fred Lowe (\$2,000), Bridges to College (\$500), Walter Cross, and IBE Kokomo."

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The Kokomo High School Class of 2020 definitely experienced unprecedented times during its final semester at Kokomo High School. I was very proud of an incredible senior class, especially the class officers, for handling the pandemic with grace and flexibility, while preserving the many traditions of passage - Senior Recognition Evening, the Annual KatWalk, and Graduation with a Twist - virtually. The KHS Class of 2020 understands "Legacy Matters!" Congratulations to the KHS Class of 2020 for earning \$7.4 million in scholarships to colleges around the world.

The KHS College Prep Academy features 25 Advanced Placement (AP) courses (corporation pays all AP exam fees), an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma program, Project Lead the Way engineering classes, and award-winning Music and Arts programs. Congrats to all KHS Class of 2020 graduates and their families. If you would like to join the KHS academic family, please contact Principal Angela Blessing via email at ablessing@kokomo.k12.in.us.

Kokomo School Corporation 1500 South Washington Street P. O. Box 2188 Kokomo, IN 46904-2188

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