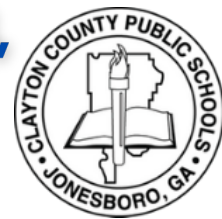




# ENCOURAGEMENT FOR GRADUATES, FAMILIES & COMMUNITY CLASS OF 2022



## CLASS OF 2022 GRADUATES

- Associate with positive, motivated, moral, and inspirational people - Furthermore, become one
- Use your words to lift and edify; Use silence to de-escalate - Avoid violence
- Don't just hear the world around you, listen for clarity and deep meaning
- Earn a credential beyond a high school diploma - Skill up for more opportunities
- Create income streams and spend less than you earn - Build economic wealth and stability
- Remember a delay is not considered a denial
- Get engaged civically, locally and beyond - Pick a moral position and advance it

*Congratulations  
Graduates!!!*

## FAMILIES & COMMUNITY

- Love and lift one another with your words; Be graceful with your words and actions
- Take care of our children - Model healthy behaviors, attitudes, and responses
- Make positive mental health a priority - It's a positive thing for individuals and families
- Create a culture of high expectations - No one rises to low expectations
- Help and support one another - Give freely
- Get involved in education - There are many opportunities to support schools and students

## BUSINESS COMMUNITY

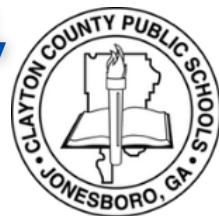
- Partner with our schools; Be there for our children and students
- Provide internships and job opportunities to our students and graduates

## ALL STAKEHOLDERS

- Be a part of positive solutions that build our community
- Vote in every election like your freedom depends upon it - Your vote is your voice
- Continue supporting Clayton County as it moves toward high performance
  - Current SPLOST VI
    - Modernized Jonesboro High School
    - New Morrow High School
    - New Forest Park Middle Schools
    - New Arena, College & Career Academy, Discovery Center, Boys and Girls Club
    - Modernized Athletic Facilities
  - March 2023 SPLOST VII
    - 6 Early Learning Centers
    - 4 New STEM Elementary Schools
    - New North Clayton High School
    - Modernized Lovejoy High School
- Speak well of others and your community - You are or become what you say you are
- Remember, you are your only competition - Compare yourself to none; Own your journey; Be your best you



# ENCOURAGEMENT FOR GRADUATES, FAMILIES & COMMUNITY CLASS OF 2022



## ON CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

It's a cold, harsh, and unequal world out there...a world that has been intentionally designed not to work in your favor, a world that has historically undervalued your excellence.

But "that" world doesn't know what's coming from the Class of 2022! They aren't ready for you...

You have been prepared with a solid educational foundation, a strong sense of morals and values, and a solid foundation built on unconditional love from your village.

Know your village is always waiting in the wings to lift you up, support you, nudge you forward and be there when you stumble because you will -- it's all part of life.

After the last two years of a global pandemic, we know you are resilient, smart, and ready for what's next -- you have worked hard to be here, I commend you on your commitment and strength.

And you're going to need both — because our world needs changing.

We need strong, courageous visionaries to lead the charge...and if not you, Then who? There is no time for anyone to sit on the sidelines so I encourage you to be inspired and energized by those young leaders who have come before you and commit to learning, advocating, and leading in our never-ending fight for racial justice and economic equality.

We need you but more importantly — you need you.

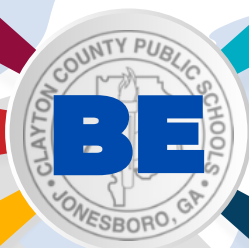
Although, as parents, we have great expectations of you because we know what you're capable of...the ONLY person you are destined to become in this lifetime, is the person YOU decide to be ---

SO be...

ENGAGED

FEARLESS

KIND



BRAVE

A LEADER

YOURSELF



## ON YOUR FINANCES

Keys to ensuring your long-term financial stability and success:

SPEND LESS THAN YOU EARN

SAVE EARLY— START RIGHT NOW AND SAVE 10% OF EVERY DIME YOU EARN!

SAVE OFTEN — DISCIPLINED SAVINGS!

INVEST YOUR SAVINGS — MOST POWERFUL WORD IN THE DICTIONARY IS COMPOUND INTEREST

LEARN TO MANAGE YOUR MONEY

REMEMBER —FINANCIAL STABILITY GIVES YOU CHOICES

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

FOLLOW YOUR PASSION

FIND A MENTOR (HE/SHE WON'T FIND YOU...)

NOTHING CAN REPLACE HARD WORK

BECOME INVALUABLE TO YOUR EMPLOYER

MAKE MISTAKES -- IT'S THE ONLY WAY YOU LEARN

COMMIT TO A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

TAKE RISKS

LISTEN MORE THAN YOU TALK

DON'T LET OTHERS DEFINE WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE FOR YOU

PAY IT FORWARD -- YOU MENTOR SOMEONE

Clayton County Public Schools extends special thanks to Leadership Atlanta Class Members Jolie Cooper, Alonzo Sexton, and Kamau Bobb for their contributions to these words of encouragement for the Clayton County Public Schools Class of 2022.