

THE TRAIL TRIBUNE

Congratulations Class of 2025



By Savya
Digitised by Mr. D'Aoust

• Did you know that a highschool student spends an average of 180 days at school?

• Around 250 cookies are sold daily at the cafe, most of which are chocolate chip cookies.

• If you skipped for 10 minutes each period, you would have lost more than 12% of instructional time overall.

• The average high school graduate knows around 15000 words. Shakespeare is estimated to have had a vocabulary of more than 34,000 words.

GRADUATION
FUN FACTS

Written by Jennifer and Widda

• High school diplomas used to be handwritten on sheepskin about 100 years ago! This was before they turned to using parchment paper instead.

• Did you know that from Kindergarten to Grade 12, you would have spent around 10710 hours in the classroom? That is nearly 9.4% of your life from ages 5 to 18!

• Did you know that about 86% of highschool students procrastinate on assignments?

• On average, students use 48 pencils per year! Throughout your school career, you would have used around 624 pencils. You would have enough graphite to draw a line from Calgary to Edmonton 11 times.

This issue was designed by Yvonne, who is graduating today.
Congratulations Yvonne, and thank you for your contributions to The Trail Tribune.

Introducing Our Graduation Speakers

Written by Areej, Noor & Adeena

Jeff - Valedictorian



Meet Jeff, North Trail's 2025 valedictorian. A passionate leader in the STEM community, Jeff is the programming lead for the school's robotics team and supports robotics initiatives in other schools. He also takes AP Computer Science and has played a key role in building a strong tech-focused community at North Trail. When asked about the heart of his valedictorian speech, Jeff shared that his

message focuses on encouraging students to pursue what they truly enjoy, not just what they feel obligated to do. "The most important thing anyone can do is find that something' they love and work toward it," he said. Reflecting on his graduating class, Jeff sees them as leaders navigating a rapidly changing world. As Jeff puts it, high school helped many students discover their passions and potential, lessons that will continue to guide them in the years to come.

Nunu - Convocator



Nunu is this year's class convocator! Though born in Canada, she has spent most of her life in Kuwait, before returning back to Canada in 10th grade, an experience she mentioned that truly made high school a time for major growth and transitions. Nunu describes graduation as the completion of a journey, marking the end of one chapter, while opening up another with vast opportunities. Being selected as

convocator is something that Nunu marks as a great honour, and a responsibility she takes incredibly seriously. She aims to be convocator while acknowledging the hundreds of stories and experiences that exist within the graduating class of over 500 students. Her energy and thoughtfulness have left a lasting impact and as she helps close this chapter for herself and her peers, she does so with pride and excitement for the future!

Tiffany - Toast to the Parents



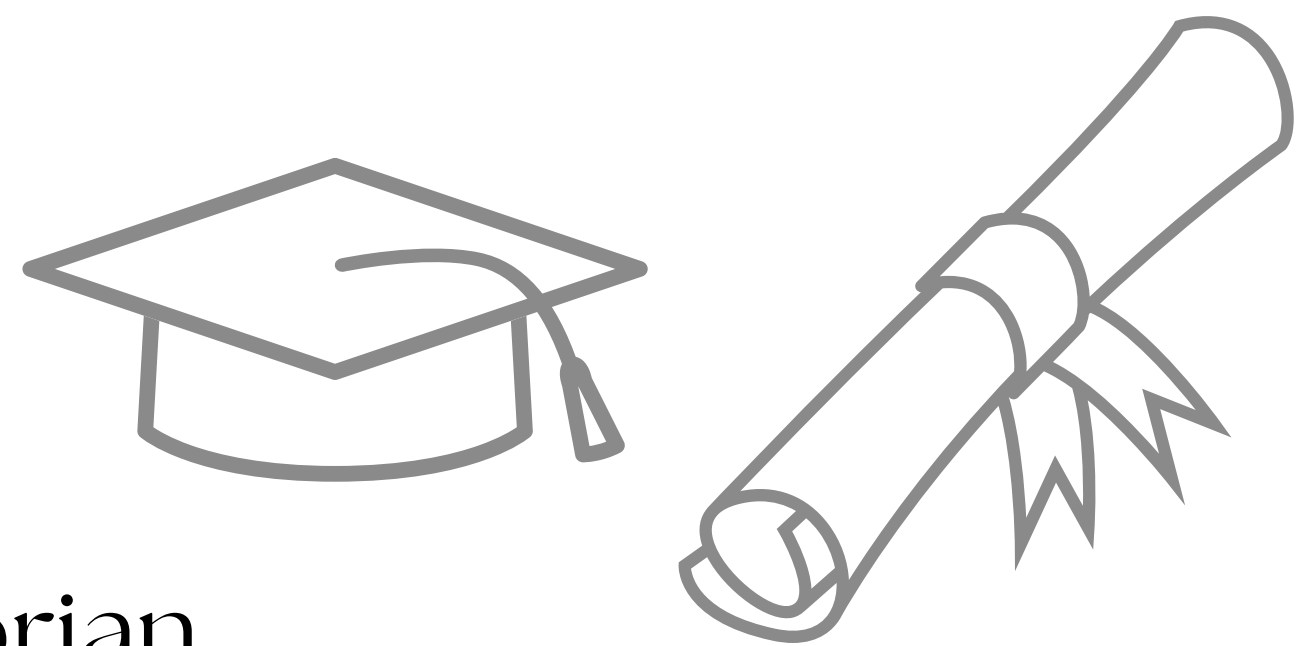
Tiffany will be delivering this year's Toast to the Parents—an opportunity she says she's thankful for, as it allows her to express appreciation not only to her own mom, but to all the families who supported the graduating class. In her interview, Tiffany shared that she wanted to highlight the importance of understanding and patience. She spoke candidly about her own struggles with procrastination and staying motivated,

and how her mom's support helped her grow, both as a student and a person. "She gets it," Tiffany said, explaining that her mom's belief in her encouraged her to reach for goals she might not have pursued otherwise. She hopes the toast reminds parents that their efforts aren't overlooked. As Tiffany put it, "their kids see it, even if they don't always say it."

Reese - Toast to the Teachers



Reese will be delivering this year's toast to the teachers during our graduation banquet. Reese is a member of the girls soccer team and during her spares, she volunteers her time in the CSSI classroom. Reese holds fantastic relationships with her teachers and is the perfect person to toast our amazing faculty and staff. Congratulations, Reese!



Maha - Class Historian

As Class Historian, Maha reflects on the journey of a class that had to rebuild from the ground up. "We had to switch schools midway, and we had to start from nothing," she said. "And we built so much out of nothing. We're something right now." When asked how she chose what parts of the class's story to include, Maha said that every moment—big or small—deserved recognition. "Everything plays a really significant part. That's the beautiful part of it," she explained. Looking ahead, she believes the friendships and relationships built during high school will be what lasts. "Everything we've learned from those relationships are going to matter a lot in the future." Outside her historian role, Maha has been active in the school community. She was part of the speech and debate club, winning a silver award for a speech competition, and also participated in rugby, sports medicine, leadership, and volunteer work throughout her years at school.

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Isabelle - Land Acknowledgment

Isabelle is a first-generation Canadian, who will be pursuing a psychology degree this fall. She was selected to deliver the land acknowledgement at graduation, a role which she described as an honour. Isabelle emphasized the overall importance of recognizing and valuing the land that we live, and learn on each day, as well as the opportunities it presents to both individuals and families, especially those who may not have had the opportunity elsewhere. As part of her speech and reflection, Isabelle shared a line that stood out: “We’re all a mosaic of everyone we’ve ever loved”. Through this idea, Isabelle invites us all to reflect and consider how the individuals within our lives, past or present, have left a mark on us, shaping the way we speak, think and move daily. We look forward to hearing from her today!

MC's

This year we are excited to have Dara, Arifa, Pranathi, and Talyn as MCs! With their energy, excitement, and teamwork, they're sure to bring both fun and heart to today's graduation! We can't wait to see the important moments they'll create today!



Pranathi



Dara



Arifa



Talyn

Principal's *Message:* To the Class of 2025

Interviewed,
Transcribed & Edited
by Sanaa and Elisa

Dear Nighthawks,

It is with immense pride and deep emotion that I write to you today — to our very first graduating class. You are the trailblazers of our school: the first to walk these halls, the first to shape our identity, and the first to take flight as Nighthawks.

To be a Nighthawk is to care deeply. About each other, our community, and the land we gather on. Nighthawks look after their flock as they explore the vast world around them. They migrate thousands of miles, venturing into the unknown. Just like them, you have journeyed far, often through dark storms. You've faced adversity, loss, change, and heartache. Yet through it all, you've shown resilience, courage, and compassion. The path hasn't always been easy, but like true Nighthawks, you've always found your way forward.

As we walk the path of the North Trail, it is important to pause and reflect on the land beneath our feet. North Trail is not just a school, it is a community. Together, we have built a sense of shared identity from the ground up. As students, staff, and families, we have created a culture rooted in respect, belonging, and unity. This trail is not just a symbol of our educational growth, it is part of a much older path. One that holds deep meaning for the Blackfoot people. For generations, this land has

been a place of gathering, learning, and connection. As our Nighthawks leave their nest, it is crucial to remember the lessons this land teaches us. To care for those who come after us, to learn and grow through each other and to stand up for justice and peace in a world that desperately needs it.

The legacy you leave behind is powerful. You have shown us what North Trail stands for: resilience, innovation, and leadership. You, our graduating class, have reminded us that we are stronger together. That learning happens through listening to each other's stories. That every voice matters. If someone were to ask me what North Trail High School stands for, I would say it is a place where hearts are shaped, dreams are nurtured, and every student is seen. A place where you choose your next journey as you continue along the trail.

As our nighthawks take flight, it's almost bittersweet to see all our students progress in their journey on the trail. In just two years, I have had the honour of seeing you grow into remarkable young people. Our grade twelves have gone through heartache, loss and tragedies. But through it all, they have grown to be the leaders of the future. You are our first alumni, our first legacy. And no matter where life takes you, North Trail will always be your home.

So spread your wings, Class of 2025. The sky is yours.

- Principal Bester.

"I'm Mya, and probably getting to the finals for the football team."

"I'm Emily. I am in Grade 12, and I think meeting new people is my favorite thing about school."

"I liked when we went on the roof.
From Sid."

"Something that was really memorable for me was the outdoor expedition backpacking trip that we went on with my Outdoor Pursuits class and Mr. Rudolph. It was a 3-day and 2-night stay in the Upper Kananaskis area. It was beautiful, it was so much fun, and the people around me—my teachers were on that trip with Mr. G and Mrs. Garden. It was such an amazing time, and I enjoyed it, and I didn't expect to enjoy it. I had a great time and a great blast. It was quite the time, and I won't forget that trip. And my name is Amina Abidji."

"My name is Zoe. I was on the swim team, and I didn't drown this year."

"All the summer breaks. I'm May."

"Hi, my name is Belinda, and my greatest memory of high school was meeting new people and the experiences that came along the way."

"Hi, my name is Aiza, and my greatest memory is making new friends and meeting new people."

"I'm Daniel Pierpoint, and one of my favorite memories from high school has definitely been all the track seasons and just hanging out with the track team."

"My name is Buck Pierson, and my favorite memory from school is leaving."

"Hi, my name is Lovleen, and my greatest memory of school is that when I was in Grade 4, I went to France with my class for about a week, and it was with my best friends."

"Planning the student vote and running the student vote was a fantastic memory among many. And I am Ms. Al Chami."

"Track and field. Matlee."

"So far, my greatest memory for this graduating class would be that I had not one, not two, but three of my Physics 30 students get 100% on the Physics 30 diploma exam. That, of course, was a lot of effort and their hard work. It was super impressive, and that's one of my favorite memories."

"Hi I'm Logan Balla and I liked the last day of grade 10."

"I'm Haley Wells. And hanging out with my friends, probably."

"I'm Owen Kennedy. I would say that my favorite part has been my experience in the robotics club within the school."

"Just participating in events. I'm Faith."

"I am Abi Braid, and probably the people that I met in high school."

"My name is Tanas, and probably gym class."

"My name's Chelsea, and my greatest memory is probably the sports team. Rugby is amazing, and everyone was really friendly. The new Grade 10s are really helpful for the team this year, so I really liked my team. And football was amazing too. I am glad my coach gave me so many chances to play on the field, and I really had a good memory in the first season and second seasons."

"I'm Mike Bester. And this Grade 12 graduating class—for them to all come from different schools and to create the Nighthawk community—is one of my greatest memories."

"I WAS ONLINE FOR 6 YEARS AND ONLY GOT HERE THIS YEAR, BUT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE THE PEP RALLY. I REALLY ENJOYED THE FUN GAMES AND SCHOOL SPIRIT THAT WAS BUILT. I'M HERMIONE."

"The friends I made in my different classes. I'm Sahas."

"My name's Maddie. My greatest memory of school was probably this year because I was a stage manager for the drama production, and so that was really fun being part of that community."

TALES FROM THE TRAIL

From switching schools for Grade 11 to helping build a new community at North Trail High School, the Grade 12 students have come a long way. Their journeys involved overcoming many obstacles and growing throughout their high school years. They faced the challenge of adapting to a new environment, forming new friendships, and creating a sense of belonging in a school that was still finding an identity. Through school events, sports, clubs, pep rallies and everyday interactions, they helped shape the spirit and culture at North Trail. Along the way, they developed resilience, leadership, and a stronger sense of self. As the Grade 12 students prepare to begin a new chapter of their lives, graduation becomes a meaningful milestone that signifies both an exciting new beginning and a moment of reflection. For this edition of "Tales From the Trail," we decided to allow the graduating class of 2025 to reflect back on their years of school to answer this meaningful question:

"What is your greatest memory of high school?"

Interviewed and Written by Ayesha Z

"My name is Jeff Coo, and my favorite memory has been being part of the robotics team."

"Discovering self-expression. It was always kind of hard being like a floater friend, so finding a group of people that I could really connect with was really important. It helped me discover things about myself that I never really knew. This is Ngu Folefoc, by the way."

"I'm Joshua Ai, and my greatest memory is probably finishing English."