

Lessons from the Class of 2025: Wooster High School Seniors Reflect and Offer Guidance to Underclassmen

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As the class of 2025 at Wooster High School prepares to turn their tassels and walk across the graduation stage, they’re leaving behind more than just memories—they’re sharing hard-earned wisdom for the underclassmen who will soon follow in their footsteps. From balancing academics to navigating friendships, these seniors have learned valuable lessons over the past four years and are eager to pass them on.

We asked graduating seniors from Wooster High School a series of questions about their high school experiences. Their responses offer a mix of practical advice, heartfelt encouragement, and candid warnings. Here’s what they had to say.



The IB Debate: Is It Right for You?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program was a hot topic among the seniors, with opinions ranging from enthusiastic endorsements to cautious warnings. Lester Torres, an IB student at Wooster High School, praised the program for its rigor and college readiness but emphasized the importance of having a strong support system. “You can’t do IB alone,” he said. “You need friends to help you mentally, emotionally, and physically. It’s something you can’t do by yourself.”

Others, like Camila Campos Rivas, who dropped out of IB, cautioned against its limitations. “IB is painted as this amazing thing, but it has a lot of restrictions,” she explained. “There were classes I wanted to take that I wasn’t allowed to because they weren’t deemed ‘higher level.’ It’s really frustrating when you’re told what you can and can’t learn.”

For those considering IB, Brewster offered a pragmatic perspective: “It’s a lot of work with not much reward, but if you’re planning on going overseas for college, it’s worth it.” Meanwhile, Alana advised underclassmen to carefully consider their capacity for stress. “Unless you know how to balance things being too hard and not understanding, IB isn’t for everyone,” she said.



Time Management: A Key to Success

One recurring theme in the seniors’ advice was the importance of staying organized and managing time effectively. Syou stressed the dangers of procrastination: “If you’re thinking, ‘I’ll do it later,’ trust me, now’s the time to get it done. Procrastination sets you up for the same stress and last-minute rush throughout your entire high school journey.”

Maria echoed this sentiment, urging underclassmen to “choose academics first and set both short-term and long-term goals.” She added, “Having a plan and sticking to it will help you succeed in the things you want to accomplish later in life.”

Dylan offered a simple yet practical tip: “Get good sleep. It makes a huge difference.” Meanwhile, Elliot advised, “Just be yourself and don’t worry about other people’s opinions. High school is a lot easier when you focus on what matters to you.”

Navigating Social Life: Friendships and Fun

High school isn’t just about academics—it’s also about building relationships and creating memories. Lester Torres emphasized the importance of friendship: “Your friends are the most important people. They’ll pull you up when you’re down. High school can be mentally and physically draining, and you need them to survive.”

Nadia Montejano and Jen highlighted the value of tolerance and patience. “Everyone’s different, and you’ll learn to work with them,” Nadia said. Jen added, “Don’t go based on other people’s opinions. Mistakes happen, and failure is a part of life.”

However, Jazmine warned against getting caught up in drama: “Don’t ditch class, and don’t start drama. It’s not worth it. Focus on your schoolwork and keep your circle positive.”

The Great Studying Debate

When it comes to studying for tests, opinions varied widely. Gladis recommended studying “a few hours before the test to keep everything fresh,” while Alana argued, “You’re not gonna remember anything if you cram the night before. Just review the material an hour before the test. If it’s something you know, you’ll do well. If not, you can always retake it.”

Cassidy and Brandon agreed that studying is essential. “You get the grades you’ve worked for,” Cassidy said. Brandon added, “Don’t turn in assignments late. They always catch up to you. Stay on top of your work, and you’ll thank yourself later.”

Final Reflections: Words to Live By

As they prepare to leave high school behind, the seniors had some parting words for the underclassmen. Nadia Montejano and Jen encouraged students to “enjoy the time you have and make new friends. High school is about more than just grades—it’s about the memories you make.”

Lester Torres offered a heartfelt message to Hispanic students: “Your parents immigrated for you to have a better life. Don’t waste it. Succeeding in school is their success, too. Make them proud.”

Gladis summed it up perfectly: “Have fun, don’t stress yourself out too much, and make memories. High school goes by faster than you think. Before you know it, you’ll be where we are now, wondering where the time went.”

Challenges and Growth

The seniors didn’t shy away from discussing their struggles. Jershua Rodriguez admitted, “Math class was my biggest challenge. I’m not very good at it, and it was really tough to keep up.” For Elliot, socializing was the hardest part: “Talking to people and being social was kind of hard, but schooling was easy. I just had to learn to be myself.”

Maria reflected on the importance of mental health: “Prioritize yourself. Don’t let anyone tell you that you’re nothing. High school is tough, but you’re tougher.”

A Legacy of Lessons

The class of 2025 at Wooster High School has spoken. Their advice? Work hard, stay true to yourself, and enjoy the journey. High school is more than just a steppingstone—it’s a time to grow, learn, and create memories that will last a lifetime.

For the underclassmen, the message is clear: Take these lessons to heart, but also carve your own path. After all, high school is what you make of it.

A Final Word

As the seniors of 2025 prepare to embark on their next chapter, they leave behind a legacy of resilience, growth, and camaraderie. Their advice to underclassmen is simple yet profound: Don’t be afraid to ask for help when you need it, get involved in activities that spark your passion, and stay curious about the world around you. Most importantly, be kind to yourself. Mistakes are inevitable, but they’re also opportunities to learn and grow.

The class of 2025 is proof that with hard work, resilience, and a little bit of fun, you can make the most of your high school years. Here’s to the next chapter for the underclassmen—may it be as memorable and rewarding as theirs.



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