



## Harding's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Prexy Signing Day



On May 14, Harding High School's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Prexy Signing Day saw a number of graduating seniors commit to either enrollment, enlistment or employment after graduation. On behalf of Michelle Obama, the former First Lady's Reach Higher Initiative, signing day is an event that high schools all over the nation use to celebrate seniors' successes for choosing to continue their path into higher education. Our signing day is unique because we choose to honor our successful career and military bound students as well. Marion Harding was the first school in the state of Ohio to host a signing day.

Students were announced in groups by college, military branches or employers and walked out to cheers from their families and staff.

“Students, this is a celebration of the legacy you have established for yourself throughout your Marion City Schools experience,” said Superintendent Ron Iarussi. “What you’ve learned during that time has prepared you for this day, this is what education is all about. You should be very proud of yourself today.”

All students recognized during signing committed to a two or four-year college, the military, a career pursuit, a high-paying in-demand job or internship.

“You are Marion made and this high school, school district, community and your family are proud of your accomplishments,” said Harding Assistant Principal Bob Stone. “We

hope that in time you will return to your home and give back to those who have helped you along your path. The coming weeks, months, years and decades will demand growth, humility and perhaps perseverance and resilience most of all. Today we celebrate the courses each of us chart into our futures and we encourage each of you to hold fast and stay true.”

Harding alum, Ai'layshia Randle-Williams, also spoke at the event. The 2019 graduate told personal stories of the importance of perseverance and education. Offering poignant remarks on her own journey from Prexy Signing Day to life after high school, giving sound advice for embracing the changes and challenges ahead in school and the workforce.

At the end of the event, students declared their commitment and autographed their signing day certificate, cementing one legacy and beginning another.

Watch the full Prexy Signing Day event [here](#).