

# **JAMES H. GROVES ADULT HIGH SCHOOL NEWARK CENTER**

*59<sup>th</sup> COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE*

## **CLASS OF 2023**



**Friday, June 16, 2023  
6:00 P.M.**

**Glasgow High School  
Auditorium  
Newark, DE**

**Accredited by the Middle States Association  
Managed by Christina School District**

# PROGRAM

Processional..... *Pomp and Circumstance* by Edward Elgar

Star Spangled Banner ..... Ms. Nakia Fambro, Principal

Welcome and Introductions.....Ms. Nakia Fambro, Principal

Remarks.....Dr. Dan Shelton  
Superintendent, Christina School District

Remarks.....Mr. Fred Polaski  
Christina Board of Education

Remarks.....Mrs. Maureen Whelan  
Director, Adult and Prison Education  
Delaware Department of Education

Principal Address.....Ms. Nakia Fambro, Principal

Resilient Award Recipients.....Mrs. Ashley Gillespie  
Instructional Specialist

OAASIS Scholarship Recipient..... Mrs. Maureen Whelan  
Director, Adult and Prison Education  
Delaware Department of Education

Presentation of Diplomas..... Christina Adult Education Staff  
Christina Board of Education

Tassel Ceremony.....Mrs. Erica Cooke, Student

Closing Remark.....Ms. Nakia Fambro, Principal

Recessional ..... Trumpet Voluntary

# **CHRISTINA ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Nakia Fambro, Principal

## **CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Dan Shelton, Superintendent

Dr. Deirdra Joyner, Deputy Superintendent & Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Chuck Longfellow, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Paul Walmsley, Senior Director of Human Resources

Mr. Dean Ivory, Senior Director of Teaching & Learning, HS

Mr. Paul Dunford, Director of Teaching & Learning, WLC

Mr. Norman Kennedy, Director of Teaching & Learning, ES

Dr. Eunique Lawrence, Director of Teaching & Learning, MS

Dr. Aaron Selekmán, Director of Teaching & Learning, ES

Mrs. Rebecca Ryan, Director of Special Services

Dr. Gina Moody, Director of Student Services & Whole Child Support

Ms. LaTasha Johnson, Chief Communications & Marketing Officer

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Dr. Keeley Powell, President

Dr. Claire O'Neil, Vice President

Dr. Naveed Baqir

Ms. Monica Moriak

Mr. Donald Patton

Mr. Frederick Polaski

Mrs. Althea Smith-Tucker

Dr. Dan Shelton, Executive Secretary

Mia Carew, Student Member

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the James H. Groves Adult High School is to provide a high quality education that engages and empowers adult learners from diverse learning experiences who possess unique learning abilities, interests, and aspirations to acquire a James H. Groves High School Diploma. Groves prepares adult learners for career and post-secondary opportunities to become productive citizens within the communities in which they reside, work, and in an ever changing global society.

The James H. Groves Adult High School is funded through the Delaware Department of Education and is Middle States Association Accredited.

## **JAMES H. GROVES FACULTY AND STAFF**

Brigance, Darlene  
Briggs, Debra  
Fambro, Nakia  
Gillespie, Ashley  
Hemelt, Michelle

Johnson, Brenda  
Mathias, Amina  
Outlaw, Del-Nita  
Reister, William  
Roberts, Deborah

Thompson, David  
Tobin, Carol  
Vasko, Alexis

## **CHRISTINA ADULT EDUCATION & LITERACY FACULTY AND STAFF**

Bradley, Suzanne  
Coleman, Barbrett  
Defranzo, Frank  
Fierro, Deborah  
Ford, Jennifer  
Grusell, Julette  
Huffman, Cynthia  
Jamele, Concetta

King, Michael  
Koch, Kathryn  
Livingston, Janelle  
Lowe, Dorcas  
Macturk, Nicole  
Mopecha, Leon  
Minor, Vanessa  
O'Donnell, Larry

Parker, Joanne  
Punter, Tarieek  
Reed, Janine  
Roselle, Deborah  
Walker, Kenneth

# CLASS OF 2023

Bioteau, Olivia  
Cartwright, Kristin M.  
Cooke, Erica M.  
Grossi, Owen Giovanni  
Matos, Ciani-Amaya  
Nogueron, Lilianna  
Sanjoh, Carine K.

For additional information about our students, their regalia and other important information scan the QR code below:



*This list is based on information provided to the Office of Registrar at the time of printing.*

## Message from JHGHs Administration

Tonight we celebrate our students who have demonstrated resilience, provided service to our school and community, and demonstrated leadership. We speak for everyone at James H. Groves Adult High School when we say, thank you for your commitment and dedication to excellence. You represent James H. Groves Adult High School, your family, and most importantly yourself with **CHARACTER**, and **DIGNITY**. This evening, we chosen to leave you with three attributes that you embodied to get to this momentous moment and will continue to cultivate as you embark on the next leg of your journey: **Courage**, **Perseverance**, and **Confidence**.

**COURAGE** – Each of you came to our program for different reasons, but all came with various levels of doubt. It is not easy to start something new. Many of you did not finish school because you had to take care of siblings, parents, or other family members. For others, it may have been the need to enter into the workforce or schooling was not completed in your home country prior to relocating. Regardless of the reason, you knew it had to be done. You exhibited courage the moment you made a call or visit inquiring about the program and more importantly, filling out the application to apply to Groves. Courage is the ability to keep going when everything in you wants to turn and run. That may be what you thought as you received your first schedule or attended your first class, but you had the courage to stay. You leave us with the triumphs of overcoming any obstacles. As Lao Tzu states, an ancient Chinese philosopher and writer, “A journey of a thousand miles, begins with a single step.” You are all-courageous and possess the strength to conquer all things. Never forget that!

**PERSEVERANCE** - Life is full of challenges. Sometimes those challenges seem like more than we can handle. Life will knock you down. The key is making sure you get up every time you are knocked down. Be stronger each time you get up. You must have the power to persevere in times of challenge, struggle, difficulty, and controversy. Dr. Martin Luther King stated, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” The late basketball coach, Jim Valvano, who lost his life to cancer stated, “Don’t give up, don’t ever give up.” We challenge you to never give up on your dreams. Never give up on your aspirations. Never give up when life gets difficult. Never give up when the storms are sending rain, thunder, and lightning all around you. If you persevere, the sun will shine again warmer and brighter than ever before. You can handle whatever life throws at you. You are strong, you are tough, and most importantly, you are a survivor! Never underestimate your strength!

**CONFIDENCE** - Confidence is believing in yourself, knowing what you are good at and the value you provide. The two biggest enemies to success are fear and doubt. In life, we are faced with millions of barriers and setbacks, but it is in these moments that you must learn how to harness these worries and put

your reservations and apprehensions aside. Be fearless. Being fearless does not mean you do not feel fear; it means you do not let fear hold you back. It means you understand that doing nothing would be a worse fate than trying and failing. To be successful, you must be confident. Go after your dreams and test out new and innovative ideas in order to move forward even if you are not 100% ready. The sky is the limit!

To be here tonight, all of you have demonstrated a courage, the power to persevere, and confidence. Congratulations! We are so very proud of you! Our challenge to you is to be the best person you can be. Be the best version of you! If you do that, you will find much happiness, peace, and live a successful and fruitful life. Congratulations once again on your graduation from James H. Groves Adult High School and keep being the best version of you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nakia Fambro', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ms. Nakia Fambro  
Principal

