

Ready for Lift Off



BY GREG BENNETT • PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVE BLACKHURST

Our High Schoolers Who Will Change the World for 2021 have already navigated plenty of turbulence through the gray clouds of Covid (with seatbelts firmly buckled) and are ready for blue skies ahead.

In our 21st annual high school feature, meet 26 first-class students representing schools from around Utah Valley — plus catch up with 10 students who lifted-off a decade ago and see how their flight plans have changed.

CONGRATULATIONS AHS CLASS OF 2021!

We honor you for your commitment to our mission aim of "conducting yourselves in all aspects of life as Christians."

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AMERICAN  HERITAGE
SCHOOL



Noelle SESSIONS

AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL
PARENTS Julie & Travis Sessions

Noelle is happiest when she's active, whether in organized sports like basketball, soccer or volleyball or with outdoor activities such as canyoneering, bouldering and hiking. She's also active in her school, serving as student body president.

Future plans BYU in the fall. LDS Church mission. Considering majoring in business, possibly as an entrepreneur.

Guilty pleasure Chocolate + ice cream.

Top high school memories Laughing with the girls on my team during basketball retreats, bonding during practice, and eating great food before games.

Best advice Education creates opportunities. Do well in school so your future will be filled with endless possibilities.

Advice for graduates Don't underestimate yourself. Every person has something to contribute, so don't worry if your talents don't match those around you.

Stress management A teacher once taught me to "work hard, play hard." Taking breaks from stressful situations to talk to a friend has been really helpful to me. Also, reward yourself for a job well done.

Challenge We wrote a 20-page paper for senior thesis and defended it in front of judges. It was hard to stay motivated, and I was scared I wouldn't do well. I learned I can do whatever I set my mind to, and it prepared me to stand up for what I believe. It also helped me improve my writing.

Change the world I want to impact people by serving those around me, being a good friend, and supporting/starting humanitarian organizations around the world.