



From the Hill | June 2026

A Message From the Head of School



As I reflect on my first full year at York, I find myself returning to the same thought again and again: what a remarkable community this is.

Over the course of this year, I have come to know York not simply as a beautiful campus with views of the surrounding hills, but as a place defined by its people. It is a school filled with lively, curious, thoughtful students; deeply dedicated faculty and staff who go above and beyond each day; supportive families; and a community that genuinely believes in the transformational power of education.

These final weeks of school captured the very best of York. We gathered again and again to celebrate the accomplishments, talents, growth, and character of our students. From the Arts Awards Showcase, where we recognized outstanding performances and creative work, to the York Scholars and STEAMSHIPS presentation, where students proudly shared the culmination of months of intellectual curiosity, innovation, and diligence, it was impossible not to feel inspired by what our students are capable of achieving.

Beyond these milestone events were the many smaller moments that make York so special: the powerful classroom exchanges, the pervasive laughter and conversations across campus, the constant encouragement exchanged between students and teachers, and the quiet but meaningful acts of kindness and support that happen here every single day.

Of course, some of the most meaningful moments of the year came as we celebrated our students moving forward into new chapters. Our 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony honored students stepping confidently into upper school life, while Commencement allowed us to celebrate the Class of 2026 and all they have contributed to York during their time here.

Watching our graduates cross the stage was both joyful and deeply moving, and a poignant reminder of the role this school plays in nurturing thoughtful, capable, and compassionate young people.

As a newcomer to our school, this year has also been one of listening, learning, and growing for me personally. I have learned about the traditions that matter deeply to this community, the aspirations we hold for our students, and the extraordinary commitment that exists across every corner of campus. I am incredibly grateful for the warm welcome I have received and for the trust so many of you have extended to me throughout the year.

York is a truly special place. It is a school that values excellence while also valuing kindness. It challenges students academically while encouraging them to remain grounded, compassionate, and engaged with the world around them. And perhaps most importantly, it is a community where students are genuinely known, loved, challenged, and supported.

Thank you for an unforgettable first year. I hope each of you has a restful, joyful, and well-deserved summer, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Matt Micciche
Head of School

York Student Spotlight(s)

Congratulations Class of 2026!

We are so proud of our Class of 2026 graduates, whom we celebrated during their Commencement on May 23!

As they take the next step in their journeys, we want to congratulate them on all they have accomplished during their time at York. Their hard work, resilience, leadership, and spirit have left a lasting mark on our community, and we can't wait to see what they do next.



If you were unable to join us or would like to relive the celebration, click [HERE](#) to watch the full Commencement ceremony.

To view photos from the day, see the 'Commencement 2026' album on our [Facebook](#) page!

Congratulations, Class of 2026. You did it!

2026 Awards Celebration!

The 2025-26 school year has officially come to a close and we want to express our gratitude to all of our students for making this year so memorable. From the classroom and stage to



the playing field and beyond, our students have inspired us with their curiosity, dedication, creativity, and character.

We're shining a special spotlight on the students who were recognized at our year-end awards ceremonies. These awards celebrate excellence across a wide range of areas, including academics, the arts, athletics, leadership, service, and contributions to the York community.

To view the complete list of award recipients and their award categories, click [HERE](#).

York Faculty Spotlight

40 Years of Service!

As we wrapped up the school year, one of the many celebrations we enjoyed was recognizing faculty and staff members for their years of service to York. Among those honored was someone who truly embodies the spirit of our school: Steve Peters.

This year marked an incredible milestone, Steve's 40th year of service to York School. Over the past four decades, Steve has served our community in countless ways, including as a teacher, coach, and now Athletic Director. Throughout his time on the hill, he has made a lasting impact on generations of students, families, and colleagues.



Known for his warmth, enthusiasm, and unwavering encouragement, Steve has a unique ability to inspire students to challenge themselves, support one another, and embrace opportunities both on and off the field. His positive energy is felt throughout our community, and his dedication to York is unmatched.

We are incredibly fortunate to have someone like Steve as part of the York family, and we are proud to celebrate his remarkable 40 years of service.

York Alumni Spotlight

Alumni Commencement Speaker

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Jonathan De Anda, York Class of 2012, for returning to campus to serve as this year's alumni speaker at Commencement.

Jonathan is a remarkable example of the impact York graduates continue to make in their



communities. Earlier this year, he was recognized with an Emerging Leader Award for his work expanding access to sports, strengthening community health partnerships, and supporting the growth of the Salinas Regional Soccer Complex.

Jonathan credits York's rigorous academics, supportive faculty, and diverse community with helping shape the leader he is today. Some of his fondest memories from York include the friendships he built during his

time as a student, including his longtime friendship with fellow alumnus Luis Franco. Today, the two have come full circle, serving together as coaches for York's boys soccer program.

We are grateful to Jonathan for sharing his experiences and words of encouragement with the Class of 2026, and we are proud to celebrate the meaningful impact he continues to make throughout our community.

York Philanthropy Spotlight



SOARING
TOGETHER



*There's Still Time
to Make Your Impact*

Join the York community in shaping
what's next for our students.



YORK SCHOOL | TOGETHER WE SOAR

The Generosity of YOU!

Before June 30: Help Sustain York's Momentum

As York's fiscal year draws to a close on June 30, there is still time to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. **Please consider making your gift today and helping sustain the momentum that is creating new opportunities for York students and strengthening our community for years to come.**

Every day, York students are challenged to think boldly, engage fully, and discover who they are becoming. Through rigorous academics, scientific inquiry, athletic competition and academic challenge, creative exploration, and opportunities to engage across cultures and communities, they develop the confidence, character, curiosity, and global perspective needed not only to succeed in college, but to lead lives of purpose, leadership, and impact.

Because of You

Philanthropic support makes those experiences possible.

Your gift strengthens academic excellence, expands opportunities in STEM and robotics, the arts, athletics, and global learning, and provides financial assistance to 65% of our students—approximately double the national benchmark for independent schools—ensuring that talented, motivated young people can thrive in a community where they are known, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential. Its impact is immediate and meaningful.

York is building strong momentum, and **every gift helps sustain and accelerate that progress**. Whether you are making your first gift this year or renewing your commitment, your generosity directly supports the students and faculty who bring York's mission to life each day while helping create opportunities for future generations of York students.

In the months ahead, you'll see that impact reflected in our Annual Report through the stories, achievements, and opportunities made possible by supporters like you.

Thank you for your continued belief in York, our students, and the transformative power of education.

GIVE NOW

Stay Connected



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

York School
9501 York Road, Monterey, CA 93940