

From Preschool through Higher Education: Growing Up in a Border Town

Pedro Amaya-Mendoza graduated from Ysleta High School in 2018 as valedictorian and currently attends Dartmouth College. In high school, he was inducted into the National Honor Society, played in the band, and participated in Academic Decathlon.

Edward Calderon is a student at Riverside High School, class of 2020. While in school, he has competed in both football and track and has earned at least eight certifications, including in AutoCad and Autodesk.

Angela Lopez graduated early from Valle Verde Early College High School with an associate's degree with honors that she attained through a dual enrollment program. At Valle Verde, Ms. Lopez led various organizations related to the medical profession and frequently volunteered.

Tyrone McDuffie attends the ninth grade at Parkland High School where he is active in several sports programs and is enrolled in the school's T-STEM Academy (run in partnership with Project Lead the Way). He was recently selected to join the Under Armour All-American Camp Series to showcase his skills in football.

Jesus Jared Quezada graduated from Hanks High School in 2017 where he earned the Excalibur Award, the top award given to a high school senior for service and excellence. He also led the drumline, played in the marching band, and served on the student council. He currently attends the University of Texas-El Paso.

Cynthia Solis is the mother of Ryan Solis who graduated from Eastwood High School in 2018. Ryan is currently attending Harvard University.