

"Persist in the face of obstacles."

DAVIONNE GARRETT

... HONOR STUDENT
... FUTURE COMPUTER ENGINEER
... MICHIGAN CITY SUCCESS STORY

An aspiring computer engineer who hopes to own his own company someday, Michigan City High School senior Davionne Garrett sees challenge as motivation.

MAJOR SHIFT: Next fall, Davionne will attend Wabash College, where he'll major in Math and minor in Computer Science. But he wasn't always interested in math and technology. That all changed when he took an Engineering class taught by Ralph Gee. "Mr. Gee's class showed me a whole other world. It really inspired me." Now his favorite course is Computer Science, which allows him to explore and enjoy coding.

SHINING STAR: Davionne is currently taking five AP and two dual credit classes, a decision he made to "overload and challenge" himself senior year. Named an academic "Rising Star of Indiana" in 2016, he is now

near the top of his class and will graduate with honors. The connection he's had with his teachers, he says, has been key to his success. "Teachers at City genuinely care about your education, and they notice if you are having a good day or a bad day. Their doors are always open to help you."

EYES ON THE PRIZE: Davionne was raised by his grandmother, but during the summer of his junior year she had a stroke and he had to move out of her care. The change was difficult, but he stayed focused. "It pushed me to be more of an independent person and rely on myself. I had to make schoolwork a priority and not let outside things hinder me."

KEY TO SUCCESS: "Persist. Stick to your goals and stay dedicated, even in the face of obstacles."

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Michigan City Area Schools will partner with the Michigan City Economic Development Corp. and others again this spring to celebrate a citywide "Week of Code" (May 4-11).

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