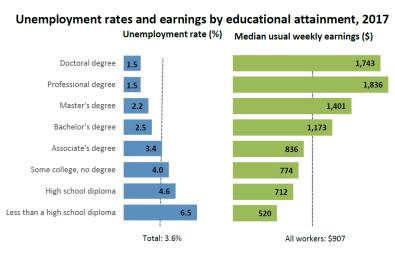
Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

I would like to congratulate the class of 2018. Kanab High School has 51 graduates and Valley High graduated 24 students this year. It is a privilege for me to attend the graduation commencement ceremonies for the high schools in Kane County School District and acknowledge each student as they receive their diploma. I would also like to thank the private businesses, individuals, hospital, and cities that provide our students with scholarships to attend universities or career and technical colleges. With the financial assistance from our local communities, our students are more likely to be successful in their chosen careers. Just how important is a high school diploma? According to a report published in 2017 by the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, adults who do not receive a high school diploma have a 6.5% unemployment rate and earn a median annual income of \$27,040. Comparatively, a high school graduate experiences a 4.6% unemployment rate and a median income of \$36,036. Please see the graph below:



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Source: https://www.bls.gov/emp/education-pays-handout.pdf

The graduating class of 2018 has successfully completed the first step on their path to independence and self-sustainment. Congratulations once again to the class of 2018 and best of luck on your future endeavors.

Ben Dalton
Superintendent
Kane School District