

City Success Story #49

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“ADVERSITY MAKES YOU STRONGER.”

GRACE ZEMROWSKI

... HONORS GRAD ... FUTURE MED STUDENT

... MICHIGAN CITY SUCCESS STORY

Michigan City High School Senior Grace Zemrowski is battling a serious illness, yet she'll graduate on time – with a 4.2 GPA, an honors diploma, and 38 college credits.

HIT HARD: In 2015, Grace was an outgoing, high-achieving sophomore on the diving team. Out of nowhere, she began experiencing severe headaches, nausea, and pain. In just two years she's undergone 18 cranial nerve and kidney operations for her condition, trigeminal neuralgia. "I've been to the ER 29 times, not to mention all the school I've missed due to hospital visits. But Credit Recovery allowed me to finish my sophomore year from my hospital bed, and taking four courses online means I'll graduate on time."



STILL ON TOP: Grace credits her high school counselor, Linda Meyer, and her teachers with keeping her on track to graduate with honors. "Ms. Meyer has been there for me every time a medical issue has popped up. My teachers have been very understanding and helpful. Some of them even come to school early to help me catch up."

BRIGHT FUTURE: Although she couldn't continue diving, Grace is still involved in the National Honor Society and is a server at Schoop's Hamburgers. She's hopeful that her medical issues will be resolved; she plans to attend either Valparaiso University or Purdue to study Biology. "I've been in a hospital setting so often, and although it hasn't been enjoyable, I've learned a lot. I'd like to be an anesthesiologist. I've been seeing one for the past couple months, and he really inspires me."

SECRET TO SUCCESS: "Everything happens for a reason. It can be hard to deal with in the moment, but ultimately it shapes you and makes you stronger for the future."

Did you know?

The MCHS Class of 2017 achieved the highest graduation rate to date (90.3%) thanks in part to the Credit Recovery program.

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