



The Right Place

Erick Maldonado, New America School Class of 2017



Erick Maldonado immigrated to the United States from El Salvador when he was 15, in part fleeing from pressure to join a gang. Shortly thereafter, Erick enrolled in NAS-Lowry, where he maintained a 4.0 Grade Point Average, earned multiple honor roll and attendance awards, and a National Career Readiness Certificate.

The captain of the Lowry boys' soccer team, Erick has also worked steadfastly to help his teammates maintain their academic eligibility.

Erick hopes to become a dental hygienist and has taken significant steps to ensure he attains this goal. He enrolled concurrently in the Dental Assistance program at Pickens Technical College while completing his studies at NAS. Erick also participated in a state competition called Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), where he won first place in both the Dental Terminology Test and Skills and the Dental Science competition.