

April 16, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardians of 8th Grade Students:

Eighth grade graduation is quickly approaching! Events are scheduled and graduation planning is well underway. We hope you find the following information helpful as a resource for your planning, and as an incentive for your son or daughter to finish strong; it is especially important at this time of the year for students to stay focused, use their resources, and ask for help if they need support. We look forward to celebrating your student's accomplishments at graduation!

LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL

The last week of school is mostly focused on graduation activities. We are seeking parent volunteers for Westward Ways Day and the graduation party. Please email Mrs. Bright to help with Westward Ways Day, sbright@suhsd.net, and Mr. Williams to help with desserts for the graduation party, mwilliams@suhsd.net. See below for a schedule of events:

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| Monday, May 28 th : | No school (Memorial Day) |
| Tuesday, May 29 th : | Westward Ways Day |
| Wednesday, May 30 th : | Graduation Trip to Sunsplash |
| Thursday, May 31 st : | Graduation Practice (7:50 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.) |
| Friday, June 1 st : | Graduation Ceremony (3:30 p.m.) and Party at Country Bowl (7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.) |

8TH GRADE GRADUATION EXERCISES

Students wishing to participate in the Eighth Grade Graduation ceremony must have earned at least a 2.0 GPA for the second semester, turned in any books or other school materials or paid appropriate fines, incurred no severe disciplinary actions resulting in a suspensions of three or more days during middle school, and attended school on the day of the graduation practice. Graduation gowns are provided to all students and all participants must be clothed in the issued gown. Due to limited seating, each graduate is issued a limited number of tickets for guest attendance.

GRADUATION TRIP AND CELEBRATION

As a reward for hard work and positive citizenship, a graduation trip is planned for the graduates. This trip is scheduled for Wednesday, May 30th at Sunsplash Waterpark in Roseville. Detailed information, including a permission slip, is enclosed in this packet. Additionally, there will be a post-graduation celebration at Country Bowl (7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.). Although we expect all graduates to be involved in the activities, there are circumstances that will jeopardize participation, such as suspension. One or more of the 8th grade events will be compromised in the event a student is suspended between now and June 1st. Note that students who are not academically eligible for graduation will not be allowed to go on the graduation trip, Westward Ways day, or participate in the graduation party.

GRADUATION TICKETS AND GOWNS

Tickets will be handed out to students when they complete their end-of-year Check Out sheet; students will receive their Check Out sheets on Tuesday, May 22nd and they are due back to Student Support Services no later than Tuesday, May 29th. Upon submitting a completed Check Out sheet, each student will receive 6 graduation tickets for their family (Note: Parents of twins will receive 6 tickets total, and young children who can sit on a lap do not need a ticket.). Please contact counseling secretary, Laura Lowden at llowden@suhsd.net or 245-2767 to let her know if you have extra tickets. If you would like to request extra tickets, please contact Laura Lowden after May

1st. We will not be able to accommodate requests for extra graduation tickets after May 24th. On May 25th, we will be able to let know families who've requested extra tickets know if we will be able to honor your request. Please note that families should not rely upon having more than 6 tickets and are encouraged to plan accordingly. There is also the option of purchasing a DVD of the ceremony for those who may not be in attendance (see 2018 Graduation Video for details). Parents do not need to purchase graduation gowns. They will be distributed at graduation practice and collected in the lobby following the graduation ceremony. Graduates wear blue gowns.

GRADUATION PRACTICE

Practice is scheduled for Thursday, May 31st from 7:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m. (school is dismissed at 11:35). Graduates are required to be present for practice if they are planning to participate in the ceremony.

GRADUATION DRESS CODE

- Dresses, skirts of modest length, or dress slacks with collared shirt and tie
- Strapless or spaghetti strap gowns must be covered.
- Dress shoes (It is *strongly encouraged* that heels be no more than 2")
- Jeans, tennis shoes, tuxes, formal dresses, tiaras, or leis are not allowed.
- Graduation gowns must be free from additional decorations, unless otherwise approved by administration.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony is scheduled for Friday, June 1st at 3:30 p.m. in the David Marr Auditorium at the Shasta Learning Center. Graduates are required to arrive at the auditorium no later than **2:45 p.m.** Noise makers, such as cow bells and horns, and food and beverages are not allowed in the historic David Marr Auditorium. Noise makers and prolonged cheering following the announcement of one student's name makes it difficult to hear the name of the next student being called. We all want each graduate to be recognized for their hard work and effort, and thank you in advance for your courtesy and respect.

GRADUATION PARKING AND HANDICAP ACCESS

If you or someone in your party requires access to handicap parking or seating, please contact Laura Lowden at Llowden@suhsd.net or 245-2767 before May 25th. On graduation day, the Upper Parking lot will be reserved for handicap access only, so if you or someone in your party does not require handicap access, please utilize the lower parking lot. Please do not park in non-school parking spaces (Medical Offices, Ace Hardware, etc...).

HIGH SCHOOL PLANS

Although the majority of our 8th grade graduates will attend high school at U-Prep, some will make other arrangements. At this time, we have a waiting list for 9th grade and would appreciate knowing if your son or daughter will be attending another school next year. If you have indicated that your student will attend U-Prep on the Intent to Return form, but you are planning otherwise please notify our registrar, Sandy Lanzi. She can be reached at 245-2767 or slanzi@suhsd.net. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Shelle Peterson
Superintendent/Principal

Matt Williams
Junior High Counselor