

# *Seneca Valley School District*

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Dear Senior Parent/Guardian,

The school year for the Class of 2016 is quickly coming to a close. This spring season will present many special moments in the lives of our young adults and graduating seniors. In anticipation of these special activities, we urge you to please take time to review the enclosed information and discuss with your daughter/son the great memories these events will create.

This is also a critically important time for your daughter/son's academic concerns. Many of our seniors have been accepted to a college, university, technical/vocational school or employment, and all are predicated on continued academic success. Please remind your daughter/son that the goal is not only to finish, but to finish well and step into the future with pride, dignity and confidence.

We have spent a great deal of time carefully planning social events and activities to avoid interference with the school's academic programs and regular student attendance. In addition, staff and students are working together to plan senior and graduation activities that will provide positive and long lasting memories for your daughter/son, our 2016 graduates.

The highlight for our seniors will, of course, be the graduation ceremony and this senior class has truly earned the positive attention, respect and well deserved recognition that will be bestowed upon it on our graduation day. In planning and preparing for graduation exercises, students and staff are attempting in every way to make this a memorable and special event for your graduate and family. We hope that you as parent/guardian(s) will support and work with us in achieving these goals.

Commencement, the culminating activity to many long hours and years of hard work, dedication and discipline, should be a positive celebration marked by dignity, respect and pride. The behavior, attitude, academic accomplishments and extracurricular/athletic successes of our seniors have been outstanding and we are asking for your support in bringing this excellent school year and your daughter/son's high school years to a safe and positive conclusion.

As a parent/guardian, there are some specific and positive steps that you can take to help guide and protect your daughter/son and friends during these celebrations and upcoming events. We urge you to provide strong guidelines that clearly establish your expectations for your daughter/son's appropriate behavior during these festive occasions. This includes the commencement ceremony. We are placing an added emphasis on student behavior. Inappropriate behavior or distracting activities will not be tolerated. Please assist us in this effort by encouraging your graduate to respect the other graduating seniors and their families during the ceremony. Raucous behavior and distracting activities of any kind by the graduates during the ceremony will not accomplish this goal.

In addition, we recognize that this festive mood can be quickly destroyed by a serious injury or accident caused not only by irresponsible behavior, but also by the use of drugs and/or alcohol. Unfortunately, some students and young adults may associate the use of alcohol or other drugs with fun and celebration. In an effort to avoid any tragedies or disappointments that result from their use of these substances, we encourage you to exercise your responsibilities by using wise judgment in your student's celebration and prohibiting any use of alcohol and/or drugs by your graduate and any minor in attendance at family celebrations or school ceremonies.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and for taking strong, positive steps in keeping this exciting time of our students' lives safe and memorable.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark A. Korcinsky  
Principal

Mr. Jeffrey T. Roberts  
Assistant Principal

MAK/smb