

Dear Parents of the Senior Class of 2018:



Welcome to one of the most exciting times in your child's educational history –

SENIOR YEAR and GRADUATION!

There will be times this year when you are very proud of your child and there are likely to be a few times when you may wonder if this child you're looking at is really yours! While parents will be going through some emotions about this milestone in your child's life – the student will also be going through some anxiety and may have a few "weirder than normal" moments as they process this leap from being a child to becoming an adult. Believe me, you will both make it through, and it will be a fun and exciting year.

This note is an attempt to give you some information about important dates and events for your planning purposes.

Graduation

The graduation ceremony is one of the single most celebrated days in many people's lives. It is exciting to be able to celebrate this accomplishment in a way that honors all students, families, and other contributors to this accomplishment. South Albany's graduation will be held at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center on **Tuesday, June 5, 2018, @ 6:30 PM**

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SENIORS:

6 Week Grades available to Students: 10/25, 12/8, 3/14, 5/2

Major Dances: Homecoming September 29, Winter Formal December 2, Sadie Hawkins March 17, and Junior/Senior Formal April 28 @ Oregon State Alumni Center. Formal dances are from 8 – 11 PM

College/Financial Aid Info: All seniors need to complete the FAFSA in order to receive the Oregon Promise (up to 90 credits free at a community college after graduation) or to be considered for the Post Graduate Scholars Program. This process was started in their Economics or AP Government class. Students will also be starting their Oregon Promise application in these classes over the next several weeks. More information is available at our school **Financial Aid Night on Nov. 7th**. A postcard will be delivered later this month.

Job Fair: Tuesday, December 12, Linn Benton Community College – required for graduation

Graduation Announcement Ordering: Seniors will meet with Miners Grad Services on **October 25th** during PRIDE to receive a packet and ordering information for announcements and other senior items. A representative from Miners will return on **November 8th & 9th from 9:45am-1:00pm** to collect orders (in the main lobby of SAHS).

Thursday, January 25 End of 1st Semester – Finals 1/24 and 1/25

Yearbook Deadlines: Senior photos are due **October 13th, 2017**.
Senior Throwback photos and Senior Ads are Due **February 2nd, 2018**.

Senior Photos: A hard copy or digital file of your senior photo must be turned in by **October 13th**.

Please save all senior photos as a .jpg titled as the following: last name, first name 6491.jpg
Example: Farver,Trisha 6491.jpg and place your students name in the sub-headline of the email.

- * School dress code guidelines apply
- * No selfies, hats, props, pets, or other people
- * No screenshots or writing on the front side of the photo
- * Color pictures are preferred (black/white okay).
- * Face should not be concealed by hands, hair, hats, etc.
- * NO full body shots (chest up only or head shots- if a full body shot is submitted we will crop it to fit the yearbook guidelines)
- * Must submit a vertical shot to fit our vertical space
- * If submitting a hard copy, a glossy coating is hard to scan. Please submit a matte finish or digital copy.
- * School pictures will be used if another picture is not submitted to the yearbook staff by October 13th deadline OR if the picture is not school appropriate
- * 300 DPI minimum

Ads for Grads: Send love and congratulations to your special senior by purchasing an ad for your graduate. Contact Miss Farver at trisha.farver@albany.k12.or.us for pricing and requirements. **All ads must be submitted by February 2nd 2018.** *Space is limited.*

Do you have any **Throwback photos** of your student with their classmates when they were younger? This is your opportunity to get those funny, memorable pictures featured in the yearbook. **Submit pictures by February 2nd to Miss Farver.** Please note: all pictures will be considered, but not all pictures will be printed.

No School: October 13th Statewide Teacher Training Day
 October 20th: Teacher Training Day
 October 26, 27: Parent Teacher Conference / Trade Day
 November 10th Veterans Day
 November 23, 24 Thanksgiving
 December 18 – January 1 Winter Break
 January 15, 26, 29 Martin Luther King Jr Day, End of Semester
 February 19 Presidents Day
 March 26 – 30 Spring Break
 April 6 Teacher Training Day

There is **NO SENIOR SKIP DAY**. Please do not let your student convince you that there is somehow approval for seniors to miss a day of school. Across the nation, this activity has proven to be very dangerous as students sometimes take risks they would not normally be involved with.

Student Graduation Speakers: Our Valedictorian and Salutatorian speak at the graduation ceremony. In addition, students can audition through Mr. Patrick Leahy and our graduation committee to be a commencement speaker. Two speakers will be selected from this process in addition to our valedictorian and salutatorian.

Career Credit

All Students are required to do a series of specific tasks to earn the state required "Career Credit" for graduation. The earlier students can complete these items the better.

- APRIL 13** All CAREER CREDIT make-up work – if a student missed "Job Fair" in December or "Career Day" or has other missing work from previous years, all must be completed by 4/13 as required for graduation.
- APRIL 20** PEPP (Personal Plan and Profile) is due for all seniors to earn required "Career Credit."

- May 4** Extended Application and Extended Application Essay are due to PRIDE teacher to meet graduation time line. (*Encourage to complete earlier if at all possible!*)
Note: We will release seniors from required attendance in FLEX periods on Fridays second semester after they have earned their career credit for graduation.
- Monday, May 7** **SENIOR DEFICIENCY LIST POSTED:** A list of seniors owing fees, who have failed to return activity or athletic gear, who may have incomplete academic records or who may be failing or borderline in classes this semester, etc. This list is posted in the office window and should be ***checked daily***. Please take care of these obligations immediately. Seniors who are deficient in credits or who owe fines, fees, books or school equipment will not be allowed to walk at graduation as per school board policy.
- Tuesday, May 8** **GRADUATION SEATING CHART POSTED:** This chart will indicate all seniors who have no deficiencies at this time. Names are uncovered when cleared. This list is always subject to change, including additions or deletions. This chart is posted in the office window and changes daily!
- ALTERNATE CREDITS:** Students earning credit through any institution other than South Albany High School must verify that grades and credits for graduation have been received in Counseling and have been verified by the student's counselor.
- GRADUATION TICKETS:** 2 Groups of Tickets
- * **Reserved Tickets:** Every student will receive 8 reserved section tickets. 8 per student will be issued – seating in front ½ of the hall, a reserved ticket will be required to enter this area. If your family does not need 8 seats, it would be INCREDIBLY helpful if you return any extras.
- * **General Admission Tickets:** Requests can be made in the front office beginning on May 14th through May 25th for additional general admission tickets. Every effort is made to meet your needs, but we cannot exceed 4,000 total tickets.
(*We were able to meet most all requests each of the last five years.*)
- Friday, May 18** **COMMUNITY AWARDS AND SCHOOL AWARDS ASSEMBLY 7:50 – 9:15** This is an all-school assembly in the gym. Awards will be presented by Community Members and the South Albany faculty to 9th – 12th Grade students. Parents are invited and will be notified if their student is receiving an award. This assembly will last a little over one hour.
- Tuesday, May 29** **Senior Finals**
- Wednesday, May 30** **Senior Finals**
SENIORS LAST DAY OF CLASS
6:45 AM Senior Breakfast served for seniors by SAHS Staff members
- Graduation Tickets** will be issued at the Senior Breakfast **IF** you have cleared all deficiencies; paid all bills, fines, book fees; and are ready to graduate! Tickets are available from Mrs. Chipman in the office after the Senior Breakfast **WHEN** all deficiencies are cleared.
- Friday, June 1** **3:00 PM** is the **absolute deadline** for any and all work to have been completed and turned in, fees paid, and all details taken care of. Any student who **has not met this**

deadline will not be allowed to walk at graduation on Tuesday. This deadline is necessary for preparation for the ceremony.

Senior Bills:

We will send bills for unpaid fees, sports fees, and any lost book fees during the course of the year. ***Please don't wait until the last minute to clear any outstanding bills you have.*** District policy requires these accounts to be paid in full for students to walk at graduation.

Work Parties:

We will host work opportunities for students to "work off" fees if necessary. Please have your senior **sign up in the main office** with Mrs. Courtney Shamp if he/she is interested in this option. Dates and times will be announced and communicated to students on the list.

Sunday, June 3

BACCALAUREATE: (Theater - 6:00 p.m.) Senior participation is encouraged. This program is open to the public. This is a ceremony that honors student's dedication and is normally sponsored by the Albany clergy.

Tuesday, June 5

GRADUATION PRACTICE:

9:30 AM – 1 PM Graduation practice at the **EXPO CENTER**
(Speech practice will be at 9:00 AM.)

This is a **mandatory** practice. Seniors **MUST** be there by 9:30 AM sharp! **Cap & Gowns** will be distributed at this practice. All fees, course work, extended application work – ***everything*** MUST BE DONE to participate in practice. ***Failure to participate in practice will result in not being able to walk at graduation.*** Please plan for students to be released from work/etc.

Honor Walk: We started a new tradition a few years ago and will continue with our "Honor Walk" at our feeder grade schools as part of our practice time. As part of practice time, we will dress in graduation cap and gown and have buses to take all seniors to the grade school and/or middle school of their choice. Our goal is to inspire the grade school students and to allow our students to be honored for their accomplishments. It is an incredibly cool experience and typically is fairly emotional as well.

GRADUATION: (***Linn County EXPO CENTER – 6:30 PM.***) All seniors will meet, with caps and gowns, in the SANTIAM Building (directly behind the Expo Center) at **5:45 PM**. Specific procedures and requirements will be covered during graduation practice.

Admittance to graduation is by ticket only. Tickets will be distributed at the Senior Breakfast on May 30th or after. Doors open to the public at 5:45 PM.

SENIOR ALL-NIGHT PARTY: Parents of seniors sponsor this event. More details and opportunities to get involved will be communicated soon by the Senior Class Parents Group. Plans at this time include loading busses for the Senior Party at the fairgrounds. More details will be announced by the party organizers as the year progresses.

Note: *South Albany High School provides this information as a service to our parents and students. The Senior All-Night Parties are not school sponsored events and publication here does not imply any liability on the part of South Albany High School or the Greater Albany Public School District.*

OREGON CAREER CREDIT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following is the protocol of what the Class of 2018 will be required to accomplish in order to receive the .5 career education credit required to graduate in the State of Oregon.

1. Students will need to have completed 2 of the following 3 activities:
 - **Freshman Success, Freshman Transitions, or AVID**- freshman year
 - **PSAT**- taken either sophomore or junior year
 - **Career Day** Summary reports during each year
 - **Job Fair** – required for all seniors (December 12, 2017)

All of these items should be in their red PRIDE period folder. If students are missing more than one of these activities, they will need to speak to their counselor or administrator about making up one or more of these activities. All makeup activities need to be completed by April 13, 2018.

2. All seniors are required to attend **Career Day** on a date to be determined. If they do not attend/participate in Career Day, they will need to complete a makeup assignment through the career center. A list of students who do not attend Career Day will be given to senior PRIDE period teachers. If this activity is missed it will need to be made up by April 13, 2018.
3. All seniors are required to attend the **LBCC Job Fair** on December 12, 2017. If they do not attend job fair, they will need to complete a make up assignment through the career center. A list of students who do not attend Job Fair will be given to senior PRIDE period teachers. If this activity is missed it, will need to be made up by April 13, 2018.
4. All seniors are also required to complete a PEPP (**Personal Education Plan and Profile**) which is a list of courses they haven taken as well as goals and CRLS (Career Related Learning Standard). This should also be in their PRIDE period folder. This needs to be filled out entirely and in their PRIDE period folder by April 20, 2018
5. All seniors are required to complete an **Extended Application or Activity Review Worksheet**. The front page should be filled out by the student. The back page should be filled out by the teacher/adult mentor who oversaw the student's particular activity or project. Due no later than May 4, 2018
6. The Extended Application Worksheet will help the student create the framework for a **300 word essay** about this activity or project. The essay should be included with the worksheet when it is turned in to the PRIDE period advisor. The essay and worksheet need to be completed by May 4, 2018.

Students whose first year at SAHS is their senior year will be exempt from number 1: They will not need to have the Freshman Success/10 year Plan, PSAT, or Career Day.

If students were not at SAHS their freshmen or sophomore year, then they are exempt from the activity for that year.