

May 18, 2017

Dear Parents of the Class of 2018,

Graduation Day for Class of 2017 is almost here! So, it is about time to turn thoughts to the Senior year for the Class of 2017. The year has flown by, and this time next year you will be saying the same thing about your own Senior. In this letter you will find a plethora of information, so keep it handy and refer to it often as it should answer at least some of your questions.

This summer is a wonderful opportunity for you to visit a few colleges. Please call the office of admissions of the colleges/universities to schedule a visit. While Clemson and Carolina remain our more popular choices, South Carolina has many other wonderful public and private schools - all within a day's journey from Orangeburg. These schools would love to take you on a tour and show off what they are best known for. And don't forget to make an appointment with the Office of Financial Aid. It is amazing what these schools can offer in the way of scholarships. We cannot emphasize enough how important the school visit is. Putting a face with an application can make a world of difference to college admissions counselors. Seniors do have two "college cut" days during the fall semester for school visits, provided official documentation from the Office of Admissions is presented within two days upon return to school.

We have tentatively scheduled a very important Senior Parent Orientation meeting for Monday, August 7, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room, Upper Campus. Please mark your calendar as there will be many things on the agenda to discuss.

There is no doubt that Senior year can be quite expensive, and we wanted to give you a "heads up" about what to expect. Below please find a calendar of events that may be helpful in planning for next year.

July: Senior Conferences - to be scheduled for last week of July.
 Register for August SAT (application fee about \$50)

August: *Senior Parent Orientation
 *Dual enrollment books purchased before classes begin
 *AP Exam fees for those taking AP Courses
 *Back to school picnic for Seniors
 *Yearbook Ads for Seniors (depends on size of ad-- starting at \$130 - \$330)
 *Senior Portraits - (packages available starting at--approximately \$75)
 *Take SAT

September: *College Applications (fee varies from school to school)
 *Take College visit
 *SAT/ACT application fee (about \$50 each)
 *Homecoming (Senior football players and escorts)

October: *Senior Class Trip deposit (\$200)
 *Halloween Carnival Haunted House/Halloween Costume

- *College applications (fee varies from school to school)
 - *Take College visit
 - *Take SAT/ACT/application fee
- November
 - *Senior Class BBQ (10 tickets to sell at approximately \$9.00 each)
 - *College Applications (fee varies from school to school)
 - *SAT/ACT application fee
 - Take College visit
- December:
 - *SAT/ACT application fee
 - *2nd payment for Senior Class trip (\$100)
- January:
 - *USC books purchased for Second Semester
 - *Order Graduation accessories (at the least \$30 minimum - for cap and gown)
 - *Final payment for Senior Class Trip (depends on funds in class treasury -in the past it has been about \$200)
 - *Winter clothes for Senior Class Trip while on sale (boys will need coat and tie)
- February:
 - *Parent Meeting for Senior Class Trip information
 - *Clothes- for Senior Class Trip (boys will need coat and tie)
- March:
 - *Senior Class Trip (March 5-10, 2018) - spending \$\$ for non-inclusive items
- April:
 - *Junior-Senior Prom (April 13, 2018)
 - *Spring Break
 - *Graduation accessories arrive (balance due depends upon individual orders)
- May:
 - *All tuition and 2nd semester fees/obligations fulfilled before Senior exams can be taken
 - *Baccalaureate/Graduation (flowers in church/reception optional)
 - *Graduation pictures (approximately \$25 for basic package)
 - *End of year picnic for Seniors and parents (approximately \$10 per person)
 - *USC transcripts sent to colleges (\$5.00)

We know Senior year can be a bit overwhelming for both students and parents, and we hope that this letter will give you a better overview. We ask that you check your e-mail often and read anything that is addressed to Senior Parents as we do communicate through e-mail concerning Senior issues. And do not hesitate to call upon us at any time during the summer or school year if you have concerns and or questions. We are looking forward to a great 2017-18 school year!

Sincerely,

Rosemary McGee
Senior Class Sponsor