

Class of 2009,

Congratulations! Graduation is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and there are many people in your lives who have watched you grow into the young men and women you are. Your futures await you, and there are just a few weeks before senior finals and graduation.

The purpose of this letter is to discuss the decorum of the graduation ceremony. This event marks a momentous transition in your lives, as you pass from completing certain educational responsibilities to making decisions for yourselves for which you are solely responsible.

In years past, certain individuals in the graduating class have made attempts to demean the honor of this event. Noise makers, balloons (latex or helium), inflatable balls, or other distractions to this event have been used in attempts to make this event into something it is not intended to be. This type of behavior has no place at a Valley High School commencement ceremony.

Any student who attempts to disrupt the commencement ceremony by displaying inappropriate behavior *in any form* will be removed from the seated class and escorted home by his or her parents/guardians. If a student is removed from the ceremony, an administrative conference will be held with the student and their parent/guardian at Valley High School on Monday, June 1, 2009. The student may receive his/her diploma on June 1 and not at the site of the ceremony.

School Board Policy 505.9 states:

Students may be excluded from the graduation ceremony for disciplinary reasons. Students who have financial obligations to the district which have not been satisfied at least ten days prior to the date of commencement will either pay the outstanding fee or make arrangements to do so with the building administrator. A student desiring to be excused from graduation activities will submit the reasons in writing to the principal.

All fees and fines must be paid BY NOON on Friday, May 29, 2009, in order to be eligible to participate in commencement.

We would also like to remind you of key times and locations:

- Thursday, May 28, 2009 Required Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. @ Knapp Center.
- Sunday, May 31, 2009
  - 11:30 a.m. doors open to Bell Center (Only entrance west of Knapp Center. Graduates only in Bell Center)
  - 12:00 noon Graduates in their seats at Bell Center
  - 1:00 p.m. Commencement

Handicap parking and entrance is east of the Knapp Center in Lot #3. Students are required to wear dress slacks and shirts, or dress suits and dress shoes. No denim jeans, sandals or flip-flops.

We expect this to be a wonderful celebration of the 2009 Valley High School graduating class. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any Valley administrator.

Dr. Vicky Poole, Principal

Mr. Aiddy Phomvisay, Associate Principal