

April 14, 2009

Dear Parent – Guardian – Student:

We are entering a very important and I hope exciting time in a senior's education. I am sending this note to you as an outline of events for the remainder of the school year. I will list them as chronologically as possible.

***SENIOR RECEPTION** Senior Class Officers cordially invite you to the Senior Reception on May Monday, May 18, 2009 at 6:00 in the VHS cafeteria. Details will be communicated by Mr. Sam Kranovich, Senior Class Sponsor, and Mr. David Maxwell, Associate Principal.

***JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM** The Prom will be held at Hy-Vee Hall on Saturday, May 9, 2009, 8:00-11:00 p.m. Formal attire is required for this event. Jr. and Sr.'s bringing non-Valley students must complete and return a date request form by April 23, 2009.

***SENIORS COME HOME** Seniors who attended West Des Moines Community School District elementary schools as sixth graders are invited to return to their home elementary school to celebrate their graduation on Tuesday, May 26, 2009. Students who have an eighth period class will need to have written permission from their parents to be excused from school at 2:30 p.m. The elementary school celebration start times and festivities will vary by schools.

SENIOR FEES AND FINES Fee statements will be distributed in Advisory on May 19, 2009. All fees and fines must be paid BY NOON on Friday, May 29, 2009, in order to be eligible to participate in commencement.

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.

COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE Commencement practice will be on Thursday, May 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Knapp Center, Drake University. This is the only practice for the actual commencement program. The practice will last approximately two hours. Caps and gowns will be issued at commencement practice. Please make any necessary arrangements to be in attendance until 12:30 p.m. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.

***HONORS EVENING** The recognition evening will be held Wednesday, May 27, 2009 in the **Valley High School Auditorium**. The National Honor Society induction will begin at 6:30 p.m. The induction program will be followed by the Senior Awards and Scholarship Recognition at 7:00 p.m.

***COMMENCEMENT** The commencement program will be held at the Drake University Knapp Center on Sunday, May 31, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. The doors to the Bell Center will open at 11:30 a.m. Graduates must be seated by 12:30 pm in order to participate. No parents or guests in the Bell Center during seating. There will not be any reserved seating for parents or the public in the Knapp Center. The Knapp Center has designated handicap entrances and seating available.

Graduation is an honorable affair so appropriate attire is required. Students please wear dress slacks and shirts, or dress suits and dress shoes. No denim jeans, sandals or flip-flops.*All school regulations will prevail at each of these activities. Seniors, please do not place yourself in a situation which could jeopardize your involvement in any senior activity. This is an important time in your lives—make sure you are a part of it.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact the school at 633-4000.

CLASS FLOWER
Tiger Lily

CLASS COLORS
Black, Orange & Silver

CLASS MOTTO
"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter
and those who matter don't mind"- Dr. Seuss

Dr. Vicky Poole, Principal

Mr. Aiddy K. Phomvisay, Associate Principal