



South Whidbey High School

The Senior Letter March 2008

At South Whidbey High School, "Our commitment is to create a safe, supportive environment that fosters personal responsibility and integrity, inspires and demonstrates academic excellence, and promotes life-long learning."

Information for Seniors, Parents and Guardians . . .

This newsletter is written to keep seniors, parents, and guardians informed during this hectic final semester. Keep this newsletter for future reference.

Graduation is a very special occasion and a memorable experience. We hope everyone is looking forward to the event.

The South Whidbey High School **Commencement Ceremony** will be held on **Saturday, June 14, 2008**, at noon in the stadium (weather permitting). We will use the high school gymnasium as a back up location. We look forward to this special day for all of our graduating seniors and their families.

All seniors along with their parents or guardians are encouraged to attend a "**Senior Parent Dessert**" on **Thursday, June 5th, at 6:00 p.m.**, in the New Commons. An abridged version of the **Senior Slide Show** will be shown for parents that can't attend the Farewell Assembly. The **Scholarship and Awards Ceremony** will follow the dessert in the Auditorium at **7:00 p.m.**

We remind you that *each senior* must meet requirements for graduation in order to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. All fines must be paid before a student may participate in Commencement. Every effort is being made by our counselors and teachers to keep you informed of current grades and credit status. However, the ultimate responsibility for passing each class and achieving the required number of credits lies with the individual student. Seniors enrolled in correspondence courses must submit their final test no later than **Wednesday, April 16th**, to receive credit needed. If you have questions, contact your student's counselor, specific teacher, or the principal.



The Commencement Ceremony . . .

Seniors report to the Auxiliary Gym at 11:00 a.m. on the morning of graduation. Don't forget your cap, gown and tassel! **Commencement is a formal ceremony.** In keeping with the dignity that your graduation ceremony deserves, we expect appropriate attire to be worn under gowns. *Ladies, dress or skirt/dress, pants and blouse. (Be cautious about high heeled shoes if you aren't accustomed to wearing them.) Gentlemen, attire such as full-length slacks or casual pants, and shirts with a collar.*

The following are some things to remember so that your graduation ceremony is a reflection of your awareness, maturity, and good taste:

- a. The mortarboards (caps) were designed to be worn with the "board" (flat of the cap) **PARALLEL** to the floor. The points go in the front and the back. The hat may flatten your hair for a couple of hours, but the caps and gowns are a traditional design, hundreds of years old, and universally recognized as a symbol of education. Please wear them correctly. (Don't forget bobby pins to hold them in place if your hairstyle is such that the cap may easily fall off or will not stay in place.)
- b. **DO NOT USE A HOT IRON** when pressing your gown as the material scorches easily!
- c. Please deliver flowers and/or gifts to students **AFTER** graduation.
- d. Remember that this is a **FORMAL CEREMONY** in which the school presents you to the community. The **CELEBRATION** comes afterwards.

Senior Check List - 2008

Date	Event	Time	Location	Contact
April 15	Senior Slide Show Picture Deadline		Student Services	Mrs. Johnson, ljohnson@sw.wednet.edu Dylan Fate
April 18	* MANDATORY * Senior Class & Senior Parade Meeting	8:45 a.m.	New Commons	Mr. Prosch, ext. 5406, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Hunter ext. 5427, & Robert Boenish
April 18	Distribution of Graduation Announcements	11:00 - 11:30 a.m. (Lunch - WASL Week)	New Commons	National Achiever Services 800-800 4083
April 16	Correspondence Course Final Test Submission Deadline		Student Services	Mrs. Brown, ext. 5411, dbrown@sw.wednet.edu
May 1	South Whidbey Record Senior Photo Submission		Student Services or Yearbook	Mr. Koffkin, ext. 5201, & Kyle Asay
May 10	Junior/Senior Prom	8:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Future of Flight	Mr. Langer, llanger@sw.wednet.edu
May 22	Sr. Parade Application Deadline	No later than 2:30 p.m.	Career Center	Mrs. Czarnik, ext. 5137
June 5	Senior/Parent Dessert, Slide Show	6:00 p.m.	New Commons	Mrs. Johnson & Darrin Britton
June 5	Senior Scholarship Presentations	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium	Mrs. Burnett, ext. 5412
June 10	Distribution of Senior Clearance Check Out Sheet	Period 3, 3A	Regular Classroom	Mrs. Hagerman, ext. 5415
June 10	Senior Finals	3, 3A, 3B & 4	Regular Classrooms	
June 11	Senior Finals	1 & 2	Regular Classrooms	
June 11	Senior Parade & Permit Pick-Up	1:35 p.m.	Park	Mr. Hunter
June 11	Cap & Gown Distribution	2:30 p.m. (after parade)	New Commons	National Achiever Services
June 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • * MANDATORY * Graduation Farewell Assembly Rehearsal • Order Form Distribution for Senior Class Photo 	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Gym	Mr. Prosch & Grace Itaya
June 12	Farewell Assembly	11:30 a.m.	Gym	Mr. Prosch, Mrs. Johnson, Dylan Fate, & Kyle Asay
June 13	Senior Continental Breakfast	8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Old Commons	Mr. Langer
June 13	Fines Deadline/Senior Checkout: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Fines Must Be Cleared Library, ASB, Athletics, Fees, Textbooks, etc. • Deadline to Submit Senior Clearance Check Out Sheet • Graduation Ticket Distribution 	8:45 - 9:30 a.m.		Mrs. Hagerman Mrs. Miller, ext. 5218 Mrs. Brown
June 13	* MANDATORY * Graduation Rehearsal in order to participate in Commencement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Class Group Picture (Bring your Cap & Gown) • Surplus Ticket Distribution 	9:30 a.m. - Noon	Gym/Stadium	Mr. Prosch, Mrs. Johnson, & Grace Itaya Pictures: Designer Portrait Studio 800-521-8282
June 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seniors Gather • Seating By Ticket Only • Festival Seating (No Ticket, Until Capacity Met) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:00 a.m. • 11:15 a.m. • 11:45 a.m. 	Auxiliary Gym	Mr. Prosch & Mrs. Johnson
June 14	Commencement	Noon	Stadium (Weather Permitting)	Mr. Prosch & Mrs. Johnson Designer Portrait Studio
June 14	Commencement Reception	Immediately Following Commencement	New Commons	Mr. Langer

Ticket Distribution

Each graduating senior will be issued seven (7) tickets on Friday, June 13th, once seniors have paid all fines and turned in their Senior Check Out Sheet to Mrs. Hagerman. Tickets will be available in the main office from 8:45 – 9:30 a.m.. Seniors not needing all seven tickets are asked to please return them to Mrs. Hagerman to be distributed to families who need more. For those who need extra tickets, a sign-up sheet will be available at the ASB/Athletic Office. **No phone calls will be accepted.** We will take the number of tickets that have been returned and the left over tickets, and divide them evenly among seniors requesting extras. Additional tickets will be distributed by Mrs. Ricketts on the 13th at noon. **NOTE: LOST OR STOLEN TICKETS WILL NOT BE REPLACED.** Entrance to graduation will be by ticket only. Festival seating will begin at 11:45 a.m. until the stadium/gym is at capacity as per the Island County Fire Marshal.

Caps and Gowns/Graduation Announcements

Students who have not ordered a cap and gown may submit a late order and must contact National Achiever Services directly at 1-800-800-4083.

Caps and gowns will be distributed after the Senior Parade on Wednesday, June 11th, at 2:30 p.m., in the New Commons.

A representative from National Achiever Services will be at the High School during lunch on Friday, April 18th, to deliver graduation announcements to students who ordered them on time. If you do not pick yours up, see Mrs. Hagerman in the main office.

Graduation & Farewell Assembly Rehearsals

**** MANDATORY ****

Rehearsals are in the Gym as follows:

➤ **Thursday, June 12th, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.**

➤ **Friday, June 13th, 9:30 a.m. – Noon**

All seniors and Running Start seniors are required to participate in the **Mandatory rehearsal on June 13th**, in order to participate in Commencement. *Attendance will be taken.* **A GROUP PICTURE OF THE SENIOR CLASS IN CAP & GOWN WILL BE TAKEN AT THE JUNE 13th, 9:30 a.m. REHEARSAL. PLEASE BE SURE TO BRING YOUR CAP AND GOWN.**

Farewell Assembly

The Farewell Assembly will be held on Thursday, June 12th, immediately after graduation rehearsal at 11:30 a.m. in the Gym. **Parents are invited to attend and watch the assembly. Please sign-in at the main office upon arrival to the high school.**

Student Conduct

Seniors are reminded to observe all South Whidbey High School/School District Board policies regarding appropriate student conduct throughout all final week activities. Seniors who are in violation of these policies are at risk of not participating in the commencement ceremony.

Diplomas



The diploma cover handed out during commencement will not include your diploma. Seniors will receive their actual diploma in the *mail with their final report card and transcript in July.*

Commencement Photos

At rehearsal on Thursday, June 12th, you will receive an order form for purchasing (if you wish) a group graduation picture. The group picture will be taken at graduation practice on Friday, June 13th. Be sure to bring your order form, money, and cap and gown on this day.

In addition, individual pictures will be taken at the graduation ceremony and will be available for purchase.

Parent Dessert & Senior Scholarship Presentations

Seniors will host a dessert for their parents or guardians in the South Whidbey High School Commons on Thursday, June 5th, at 6:00 p.m. Senior Scholarship Presentations will follow at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. An abridged version of the Senior Slide Show will be shown at the Parent Dessert.

Senior Photo South Whidbey Record

If you did not have a student portrait taken by “Lifetouch” at the beginning of the school year, we do not have a photo of your senior to submit to **The South Whidbey Record** for their “*Graduation Issue.*” Professional photographs may be used instead of the Lifetouch photo. Submit your photograph no later than Thursday, May 1st, to Mrs. Dunsmore at the ASB window, or Mr. Koffkin in Yearbook. If you turned in a photo for the yearbook, that picture will be used.

Graduation Performances

Students interested in performing at the farewell assembly or graduation must sign-up for auditions through Mrs. Dunsmore in the ASB/Athletic Office.

Yearbooks! Yearbooks!

Seniors, please don't graduate without your yearbook. The yearbook supply is getting very low; purchase yours now at the ASB window. Yearbooks are \$50.00 each. For additional information, contact Yearbook class between 9:10 – 10:40 a.m., daily, at 221-6808, ext. 5201.

NO Senior Skip Day

Our school does not condone, sponsor, or approve any organized senior skip day and we will follow through with appropriate disciplinary consequences should any senior participate. Parents and guardians can assist the school by reinforcing with their student the importance of being in class and by not allowing students to participate in such an activity.

Official Transcripts

Most colleges, universities, and technical institutes require a final, official transcript from applicants sometime after completion of second semester. **You must submit to the registrar, Mrs. Brown, stamped and addressed envelopes for each school where your final transcript needs to be sent.** Note: official transcripts will not be mailed until all outstanding fines have been paid.

Senior Final Exams

Final exams for seniors will be given on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 10th and 11th. We will be on a regular bell schedule with exams scheduled as follows:

- **Tuesday, June 10th:**
Periods 3, 3A, 3B and 4
- **Wednesday, June 11th:**
Periods 1 and 2

Senior Parade

This year's traditional senior parade will occur on Wednesday, June 11th, leaving the high school at 1:35 p.m. There are a limited number of cars allowed. Students who wish to participate **MUST** sign-up ahead of time indicating the car they intend to drive or ride in. Sign-up sheets will be available at the **MANDATORY SENIOR meeting on Friday, April 18**, in the New Commons. **APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN Thursday, May 22nd, by 2:30 p.m., to Mrs. Czarnik in the Career Center.**

Senior Check-Out Process

Seniors will be given a final checkout sheet on the first day of final exams on Tuesday, June 10th, during third period. Seniors need to check out of classes, the library, and ASB/Athletics (Fines). Follow instructions on the Senior Check-Out Form carefully. Please note that seniors must have all fines paid in order to complete their clearance sheet. **SENIORS MUST COMPLETE the CHECK-OUT PROCESS on Friday, June 13th, from 8:45 – 9:30 a.m., in order to receive their graduation tickets.**

Running Start and off campus seniors are required to pick up and complete a Clearance Sheet by Friday, June 13th. You must pick up a Clearance Sheet from Mrs. Hagerman in the main office.

Fines . . . Deadline Friday, June 13th. Seniors must have all fines paid by this date. A "fines list" will be posted on Student Services window and will be updated regularly. Please be sure to check for your name.

Library fines will be posted and must be cleared with the librarian by Friday, June 13th. All library materials must be turned in by this date.

Senior Breakfast

A continental breakfast will be served on Friday, June 13th, in the old commons from 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. This event is for seniors only and is sponsored by the Junior Class.

Daily Bulletin

The high school bulletin is posted daily. A hard copy of the bulletin is located outside the Student Services Office hallway, teachers have e-mail access as well as a hard copy, and it is read daily at 7:30 a.m. to students over the intercom. The daily bulletin is available on the high school website: www.sw.wednet.edu. Seniors should be checking the bulletin daily for events and schedule changes at the high school. This is especially important at this time of the year. You don't want to be left out! **RUNNING START & OFF-CAMPUS SENIORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMING TO CAMPUS TO CHECK FOR UPDATED SENIOR INFORMATION. We will not be mailing information home to these students.**

Walking Partners

Students need to sign-up for a walking partner for graduation. Please see Mrs. Dunsmore in the ASB/Athletic Office, to sign-up. Failure to sign-up will result in partner assignments.

South Whidbey School District
PO Box 346
Langley, WA 98260

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Senior Slide Show

Traditionally, senior class officers and interested members of the class produce a slide show to be presented at the end of the year Farewell Assembly. This year we want the slide show to be exceptional. We plan to include video clips as well as photos of the graduating students throughout their lives. We have been collecting photos for a month now and have received many pictures of a limited number of people in our class. This year we particularly want to emphasize that a class is the sum of its parts. With this idea in mind, we plan to represent all students of our class in the slide show.

We would greatly appreciate your help as a parent or guardian, to provide photos and video clips of your student to the slide show committee. **We need at least three pictures of each senior. One baby or childhood, one adolescent, and one current.** A collection box is located in the ASB/Athletic office. Digital photographs are welcome and may be e-mailed to: swhs2008@gmail.com. Pictures must be submitted by Tuesday, April 15th. For more information please contact Mrs. Johnson at ljohnson@sw.wednet.edu.

ALL pictures and videos should have the name or names of individuals pictured written on the back, and, if needed, the name of the person to whom the picture should be returned.

