

April 22, 2013

Dear Parents or Guardians,

The time is nearly here! Graduation is fast approaching, and I know you want to be informed about all the details involved in this special occasion. Please mark the activities and dates on your calendar so you will be ready for each event.

First of all, caps and gowns will be distributed on Thursday, May 9 immediately after school at the south cafeteria doors. *All fees must be paid in full before your son or daughter may receive his or her cap/gown or diploma, including the \$125 graduation fee.* Final transcripts will not be issued if there are outstanding balances of any kind – tuition, library fees, athletic uniforms, textbooks, etc.

The Senior Awards dinner will be held on Sunday, May 5 at St. Anastasia's Parish Center at 6:30 PM. Attendance for seniors is by invitation only, and parents of seniors receiving awards will be notified. Tickets will be sold for \$10 through senior homerooms, so if your senior will be receiving an award, please let him or her know how many tickets you would need to purchase if you and other family members would like to attend.

Senior exams are administered May 13 – 16 to seniors who do not have an 88 average for 3rd and 4th quarters in each separate class. Seniors will come on campus, in full dress code, only for their designated exam time(s) and will leave upon completion of the exam period. The schedule will be posted on our website once it is finalized, and seniors will be made aware of the schedule through their classes.

Baccalaureate mass will be held at 7:00 PM at St. Bernadette Church in Port St. Lucie on Monday, May 20. Graduates will wear their caps and gowns for that evening. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Parents' Guild reception on the outdoor portico immediately following mass. The reception is a wonderful photo opportunity for you as well. Practice for this event will take place at 10:00 AM that morning at the church. Practice and the mass are both **MANDATORY** for graduation. At baccalaureate practice, each senior will receive 10 tickets to graduation.

Next, our graduation ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 22, at 7:00 PM, at the Sunrise Theatre on 2nd Street in downtown Ft. Pierce. **ADMISSION TO THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IS BY TICKET ONLY.** Seniors may share their unused tickets with other seniors, but there are no extra tickets; we have only a certain number of seats with which to work. **THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO SAVING OF SEATS.** If you and your family or friends

wish to sit together, you will need to arrive together. **Handicapped platform seating is available for 8 wheelchairs on a first come, first served basis.** Practice for graduation will be held Wednesday at 10:00 AM at the theatre. Again, both the practice and the ceremony are MANDATORY for graduation.

Doors to the theatre will open at 6:15 and will be locked at 7:00. Be sure to plan ahead, and check out the area in advance to insure an on-time arrival. There are a number of available parking spaces in various locations. The court house parking garage on 2nd Street is your best bet, so arrive early before it fills to capacity. The lot at the corner of Indian River Drive and Orange Avenue and the new garage behind city hall at the railroad tracks are also very spacious options.

We are very privileged to be using the beautiful Sunrise Theatre for this special evening, and we expect our graduates and their families to respect the facility and the dignity of the occasion. This night is a formal event, and we will not allow air horns or other noisemakers. Deputies will confiscate any inappropriate item, and the user of said item will be removed from the ceremony. It should go without saying that all cell phones should be turned off while you are in the theatre. Please help us make this commencement exercise a lovely, memorable event.

Project Graduation, a drug and alcohol-free party sponsored by Parents' Guild, will finish off the special evening. You should have already received information and a permission form for this event. If you have questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Linda Easom