

DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR EVENTS—2009

1) SENIOR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION

Activities are open to seniors who have satisfied all graduation requirements, or will satisfy them by the end of Summer Session 2009. Students must exhibit satisfactory citizenship during all activities.

2) SENIOR WEEK TICKETS

Cost is **\$10 per person**. A **permission form and medical release form** signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian is required before the ticket can be purchased. Tickets will be on sale from May 18 – May 29. You can purchase your tickets on the Patio during lunch.

3) CAP AND GOWN DISTRIBUTION

Caps and gowns will be distributed from the patio during lunch period on Monday, May 18.

Caps and gowns not picked up on May 18th will be available in B-21 on Tuesday, May 19th and can be picked up **ONLY** during lunch on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you have not yet ordered a cap and gown and intend on marching in the ceremony, call (650) 350-1132 to place your order or pickup an order form in B-21. If you need financial assistance with cap and gown, please see Mrs. Todd in B-21.

4) GRADUATION SPEECHES

The graduation speeches are a time to hear directly from our grads. There is no requirement of being long or short, serious or humorous, looking back or looking forward. The “best” graduations have a combination of all of these! All graduates are invited to prepare a speech and tryout to be a speaker. The panel is looking for a variety of styles and presentations that will be united by the theme “Building for Tomorrow.” Those selected will work closely with a staff member to polish their speech before graduation day.

You must sign up in the leadership room, B-21, on the Senior Information wall no later than **Thursday, May 7**. You must also attend a **MANDATORY** informational meeting at lunch in B-4 on Thursday, May 7.

Tryouts for the Graduation speeches will be on **Thursday, May 14 at 2:30pm in the Career Center**.

5) SENIOR CLEARANCE SLIP

Senior clearance slips will be available on Monday, May 18th on the patio.

This slip indicates that you have met all your financial responsibilities, and are cleared to participate in the graduation ceremony. On this slip, you will be requested to obtain signatures from the Treasurer (indicating that your financial obligations are clear); the Librarian (indicating that all library books have been returned); the Textbook Clerk (indicating that all textbooks have been returned); and, the Dean’s Office (indicating that your parking permit has been returned). Please begin checking with the Treasurer’s Office as soon as possible to clear your outstanding obligations – lists will be posted on the wall outside her office. In clearing obligations, please note that checks will no longer be accepted after Monday, May 18.

*The Senior Clearance Slip **MUST** be returned to the AVP Office on Friday, May 29th in order for you to participate in the graduation ceremony.*

6) SENIOR FAREWELL-Monday, June 1 in the New Gym

The Senior Farewell is an opportunity for seniors to say goodbye to their friends and staff and thank their parents and friends. Students are encouraged to sing, dance, play an instrument, read a poem, do stand up comedy, and show their talent. It is open to family and friends and a great kick off to Senior Week. This ceremony is a reflection of your years at Menlo-Atherton. Members of the class will share their artistic expressions, typically through readings or musical performances. You may choose to share your feelings with your class, or just be part of the audience. In either case, participation is voluntary.

You must sign up in the leadership room, B-21, on the Senior Information wall no later than **Thursday, May 7**.

Tryouts for the Senior Farewell will be on **Monday, May 11 and Tuesday, May 12 in B-4 at 2:30 pm**. Dress Rehearsal is on Friday, May 29th.

All students who will be attending the Senior Farewell should arrive at the Ayers Gym by 6:00 on Monday, June 2.

You will be wearing your graduation gown during the ceremony (but not your cap).

7) SENIOR PICNIC--Tuesday, June 2

The Senior Picnic allows the Seniors to let their hair down, enjoy a BBQ, play some wonderful games, and have some fun under the sun. We will be enjoying the day at Huddart Park. All Seniors **MUST** ride the buses provided TO and FROM the event. Choosing to not follow the rules laid down by the Menlo-Atherton Administration may result in not being allowed to participate in graduation activities.

8) **AWARDS NIGHT**--Tuesday, June 2 in the New Gym

Awards Night is a celebration of the many academic and extra-curricular accomplishments of our M-A grads. It will be held on Tuesday, June 2 at 7:00pm in the New Gym. You will be informed before the event if you will be receiving an award. Students receiving awards will sit in a designated area in the New Gym.

9) **SENIOR BREAKFAST**--Wednesday, June 3

The senior breakfast is sponsored by the PTA and offers an informal, relaxed time for the seniors to unite and socialize. It is also an excellent time to sign yearbooks. It will be held on Wednesday, June 3 at 9:00am in the Gymnasium Patio.

10) **GRADUATION REHEARSAL**--Wednesday, June 3

You must attend the rehearsal on Wednesday if you want to be in the ceremony on Thursday. The rehearsal will begin after the Senior Breakfast at about 10:15 am and will last until approximately 12:30 pm.

11) **GRADUATION DAY**--Thursday, June 4

There will be one final rehearsal before the ceremony. Students who do not arrive in time for the rehearsal may be dropped from the ceremony. A rehearsal is scheduled for 10:15 am *as needed*. **Graduates need to report to the main gymnasium by 3:00 pm complete with cap & gown (please don't bring purses, cell phones, etc. as there are no pockets in the gowns).**

Graduation is a formal occasion - please dress accordingly: shirts with collars, no shorts or cut-offs, no bare feet, no athletic shoes, or other attire which would detract from the solemnity of the event. Photographs of all grads will be taken by a professional company. Proofs will be sent home with no obligation to buy.

During the ceremony as you march across the stage, you will be given a case for your diploma, but not the actual diploma. These will be waiting for to pickup in the main hallway after the ceremony is over (approximately 5:30). Don't forget to pick it up! Diplomas not picked up after the ceremony will be available in the Guidance Office between June 8 – June 30. Invitations for graduation are not necessary. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. However, there will be no access to the field until 2:45 pm. **PARKING IS LIMITED.** Please carpool! The City of Atherton WILL ticket illegally parked cars. Parking is also available at SRI.

12) **GRAD NIGHT PARTY**--Thursday, June 5

The Safe & Sober Grad Night Party is sponsored by the PTA. Students must arrive at M-A by 9:00pm. Buses will leave from school **10:00 pm sharp**, and return at **5:30 am**. Food will be provided throughout the night and morning of the party. The event is a surprise and the evening will be filled with fun, games, live entertainment and food! Only M-A graduates are invited to participate in this grad night celebration.

13) **CONDUCT**

School rules apply for all graduation activities. Inappropriate behavior could result in a forfeiture of the privilege of participating in these activities, including the graduation ceremony.

Please plan on participating in all the activities listed above - your attendance will help make the final days at M-A for the Class of 2009 more unifying and meaningful.

14) **THANK YOU!!**

Congratulations - you made it!!! Thanks for all the hard work and best of luck in the future.

Questions?

Regarding Class of '09 items, caps & gowns, etc.	contact Jostens 650-350-1132
Regarding academic credits and graduation status	contact Guidance Office 322-5311 x5121
Regarding Senior Activities	contact Kelly Todd 322-5311 x5250 or preferably ktodd@seq.org
Regarding handicapped parking and seating	contact Sandy Nelson 322-5311 x5131 or snelson@seq.org
Regarding administrative intervention	contact Judy Duran 322-5311 x5130 or jduran@seq.org
Regarding Senior All-Nighter	contact Debbie Verity 650-321-3069 or gradnight2009@mabearspta.org