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Graduation Speech Entries due BY Friday...

1 message

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Please see the Class of 2023 [FAQ](#) for everything related to the end of the year (prom, graduation and more). If there are additional questions, you can submit them using the Google Form [HERE](#).

Good evening Class of 2023,

Wednesday marked exactly two months until graduation on June 12...I feel like the days and weeks are starting to fly by even quicker now that spring break is in the rearview mirror!

We are getting towards crunch time. The senior center is closely monitoring students' grades. In fact emails went out this morning to any senior that failed a class for the third marking period. I apologize for any confusion that may have been associated with that email. Some students read the email as they were not graduating in June, which might be true. However, the counselors and I are working to review grades to see if seniors failed classes that are graduation requirements.

****IF seniors failed a required course, then students/families will be receiving a notification next week stating that at this time, your student is not projected to graduate on June 12th. They could very well still graduate on June 12, 2023, but they will need to pass all required courses by the start of June.***

Along with the courses that seniors are taking in the third marking period, students that have credit recovery courses have about a month to complete the course(s) and earn a passing grade, otherwise they will not be able to graduate on June 12th.

We do not want any of our seniors to miss out on the celebration at the Liacouras Center at Temple on June 12th, so get on top of your work, email your teachers, and reach out to school staff if you need help. We are here to help you get to the finish line!

For additional reminders, please read on...

1. **Graduation Speech:** Interested in being one of the three student speakers at the graduation ceremony on June 12th? Do you have something poignant and inspirational to share with your fellow graduates? If you said yes to these questions, then finish up and submit the speech.

The 2023 Graduation Speech Contest is now underway. **ALL** 2023 graduates are eligible to "try out" for one of the three available speeches. If you are interested, submit a rough draft

of your speech to Mr. Ferrise (jferrise@upperdarbysd.org) by Friday, April 21, 2023. The requirements are as follows:

- Must include your name and student ID number
- Must be 2-3 minutes in length
- Must be school appropriate
- Must connect with the audience (i.e. The speech should not just be about you!)

As part of the process, students will have to read their speech in front of a panel of teachers/administrators, who will then choose the three speeches for the ceremony.

This has always been a point of pride with our graduation ceremony, and I am excited to see who will be speaking at this year's commencement!

2. **Prom tickets:** Tickets for prom will be sold before and after school starting on Monday, May 8th. In order to purchase a ticket, seniors will need the following:

- Completed and uploaded their work based learning certificates
- Have 85 or more Royal Points
- Completed [permission form](#) (available at the senior center)
- Valid UDHS 22-23 student ID
- \$70/ticket (**Price increases to \$75 starting on May 22nd**)

*Each table seats ten (10) guests, and if you want to be able to sit with your friends, then you should all plan to purchase tickets at the same time...we will NOT reserve seats.

**Bringing a non-UDHS senior (this includes underclassmen from UDHS)? Then your guest will need to complete the [guest permission form](#) (available at the senior center).

3. **Cap & Gowns:** Did you miss out on the window to order your cap & gown? No worries...you can still reserve one using the Google form [HERE](#). Please note the following about these reservations:

- Must complete and submit this form by May 31, 2023
- Payment will be cash **ONLY**
- Ordered items will be available on June 9, 2023 (after rehearsal)

4. **Name Pronunciation:** If you have not done so yet, please use the Google form [HERE](#) to upload your name spelled out phonetically. You can also upload a recording of yourself saying your name. This will enable your counselor to start practicing for June 12th!

5. **Senior Acceptances:** We are asking seniors that have received their acceptance letters to update Naviance with that information AND complete the Google Form [HERE](#). This will be

extremely helpful information for our counselors to be able to access.

As a reminder, be sure to check your email regularly for updates from the school(s) that you have applied to. Some of the schools have time sensitive information regarding financial aid and when/how to communicate your acceptance. Please reach out to your counselor with any questions.

****If Ms. Guidone is your counselor, please email me with your questions. I will either answer them or direct you to another of the counselors who can assist you.***

6. **Work Based Learning:** The number of submissions is ticking upwards, but still far too many seniors have not completed this requirement. Prom tickets go on sale in about three (3) weeks and seniors **will not be able to purchase a ticket** until this has been fulfilled!

Please submit the five (5) certificates of completion via the Google Form [HERE](#).

7. **Graduation Meeting Resources:** Presentation from March 9, 2023...lots of important information was shared out, so please take the time to read it over.

Link to the recording of the presentation is available [HERE](#) and the PDF of the presentation can be found [HERE](#).

8. **Semester Two Calendar:** Please see the calendar [HERE](#) that contains the daily schedule for each day of the last semester. As they do change frequently, it is a simple way to know what bell schedule we are running on a particular day!

9. **Royal Points:** Everyone started the year with 100 points (It shows in your HAC as a percentage grade under the course "Class of 2023"...i.e. Everyone started with 100%). Remember that if you do not have 85 or more points, you are not eligible to attend sporting events, participate in extracurricular activities (teams, clubs, dances, etc.)

If you need to earn back Royal Points, stop by the senior center and pick up a Royal Recovery form. Completed forms are submitted to Mr. Gentile for review and approval, and each approved form earns you back 5 points!

Have a great weekend...just seven weeks left until finals!

Joshua Peterkin

Assistant Principal

