

Class of 2019



Guide to Graduation *for parents and students*

A note to our seniors

APA seniors, you are well into your last year of high school and graduation will be here before you know it. We are all very proud of your efforts and the example you are setting for the younger grades. Each of you has so much capacity, and so much to offer the world. Throughout the school year, we invite you to give serious thought to a few things: First, am I making the most of the moment? Am I giving my full effort to school so I can be prepared for the future? Second, do I look for ways to encourage and lift others? No one can make it without support and love. And finally, who do I truly want to be, not just what do I want to do for work? People in all types of careers and jobs have made a difference in the community and changed the world for the better. What will I contribute? We love working with all of you and we are thrilled to see each of you graduate. Keep your eye on the goal and don't let up!

Parents

If parents have any questions about graduation or their student's current grades, please email or call Ms. Steiner at shannon.steiner@apavegas.org or 702-970-6800 x 5023 or Mr. McElroy at jaison.mcelroy@apavegas.org or 702-970-6800 x 5020.

To access Infinite Campus and see your student's grades, follow the directions below.

- Go to nspcsa.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/american_prep.jsp
- Enter username and password

Important Dates

Thursday, October 11th - Senior Portraits Make-ups

Wednesday, October 17th - APA College Fair

Tuesday, December 18th - Draft of student speeches due

January 2nd-17th - Winterim

February 18th-22nd - MidWinter Break

Friday, March 1st - Parent Teacher Conferences

Friday, April 5th - Honor Cord Applications Due

April 8th-12th - Spring Break

Saturday, April 27th - Senior Prom

Friday, May 3rd - Senior Tri-Boards & Final draft of student speeches due

May 6th-May 17th - AP Testing

Friday, May 17th-Saturday, May 18th - Senior Trip TBD

Saturday, May 25th - Graduation and Banquet

Saturday, May 25th-Sunday, May 26th - Grad Bash TBD

Graduation Ceremony

The graduation ceremony will be a dignified event honoring academic achievements of amazing American Prep students. The ceremony will begin promptly at 10am. In order to keep the focus on our graduating seniors, only guests in grade 3 & up are welcome to attend. Each guest will need a ticket to attend the ceremony. The ceremony will last approximately an hour and a half.

Graduates will vote to hear from one honored staff member on graduation day. We will also be privileged to hear from a few student speakers, and the choir and band will also perform.

Reception

Immediately following the graduation ceremony we invite families to mingle with their graduates in the atrium. Tri-boards highlighting each student will be displayed. **Other family members and friends who did not attend the ceremony are welcome to attend the reception.**

Banquet

Following the reception, a banquet will be held for our graduates and staff. Parents and guests will take the tri-boards and exit the building, so the banquet can begin on time. Only students and staff are invited to the banquet.

Senior Tri-Boards

During the reception there will be tables set up with tri-boards on display. There will be one tri-board for each student.

We are excited to see displays highlighting each one of our graduates! Tri-boards (the boards typically used for a science fair) will be available after winter break for each family to pick up in the secondary office. On these boards, families can display pictures, quotes, memories, etc. The tri-boards will be displayed during the reception for graduates and guests to enjoy!

The content on the boards may be a surprise to your graduate, or you can have them give ideas for constructing the display. All boards need to be turned in by Monday, May 3rd to Ms. Steiner.

Examples on the pages to follow. You can also find more examples by Googling “graduation tri-boards.”

Graduation Tickets - May 25th, 2019

Please join us in celebrating the graduation of your student! There will be a limited amount of available tickets for family and friends in grade 3 and up. The graduation ceremony will be a dignified event honoring academic achievements of amazing APA students.

Graduation will be held on Saturday, May 25th, 2019 at 10AM. We anticipate the ceremony to last approximately 1 hour.

Senior Speeches

Students have an opportunity to give a speech at graduation to their peers, families, and APA staff. Students must be in good academic standing, must submit their speech ahead of time (see the graduation timeline), and must have a passion about APA and their educational journey. This is a unique chance for your student to share their APA story, to inspire the student body, and to send off the class of 2018 with heart and style! It's best to start working on this now. We would like the speeches to last between 2-3 minutes - this typically would be 2-3 pages of text, double spaced. The first rough draft will be due on December 18th and the final draft will be due on May 3rd. Please turn these in to your Character Development teacher.

Honor Cords

Honor Cords are a note of distinction for those students who meet the qualifications. We award cords for students in the area of High Honors and Honors, as well as a variety of academic achievements by department. The qualifications will be distributed soon, and may include GPA, certain classes, and possibly an essay. The cords must be ordered one week after 3rd term is over as these cords are dependent upon 3rd term grades. The cost per cord will be around the \$5.00 range. The cords are given to students prior to graduation and will be used at the graduation ceremony.

Graduation Etiquette

Appropriate Graduation Dress

As our graduation is a dignified event honoring academic achievements, we request all students and guests dress professionally and modestly. Students will follow the ball dress guidelines, i.e. girls should be covered with no bare shoulders or low necklines and dresses/skirts should go to the middle of the knee. Gentlemen should look sharp and clean, wearing dress shirts & ties and well-kept dress pants or khakis.

Guest Graduation Dress

We appreciate our guests following the same guidelines as our graduates. Thank you for keeping high standards as we honor the graduates in a dignified way!

Ceremony Etiquette

Guests in grade 3 and up will be allowed entrance into the ceremony with a ticket. The ceremony will be a dignified event. We ask that there be no whistling, bull horns, loud cheering, etc. during our event as we honor the academic achievements of the graduates in a respectful way.

Gifts

As we honor our graduates, we appreciate families reserving gifts of a personal nature (for your child only) for your family celebrations outside of school. A few examples of gifts of a personal nature that would **not** belong at school on this day are: balloons, bouquets, flowers, leis, and any other item that is personal to your child should be reserved for your family celebration. We are excited for seniors to be honored for their academic successes and celebrate their many achievements.



EMMA MATHESON



