



MAINE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

1111 South Dee Road, Park Ridge, IL 60068 ▪ 847-825-7711 ▪ fax: 847-692-8210 ▪ <http://south.maine207.org>

Dr. Benjamin D. Collins
Principal

George A. Dagues
Associate Principal

David J. Berendt
*Assistant Principal
Students*

Melissa A. Dudic
*Assistant Principal
Teaching and Learning*

Kevin M. Scotellaro
*Assistant Principal
Student Services*

April 2019

Dear Parents:

In a few short weeks we will reach the end of the second semester, and with it, the crowning achievement of your child's four years of hard work, Maine South School's 2019 Commencement Ceremony. I write to you today to thank you for all the support you have given your son or daughter in this endeavor and to share with you important information for the last few weeks of your child's senior year. Please read through this document closely and share it with your son or daughter as it highlights important dates, events, and expectations for the remainder of the year. I hope to see you all at these year-end events.

Be proud – they have done well!

--Dr. Ben Collins, Principal

SENIOR HONORS NIGHT – Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Each year we pay special tribute to the many Maine South graduates who distinguish themselves through scholarship and citizenship. Senior Honors Night is Wednesday, May 15th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Clyde K. Watson Auditorium. Should your son or daughter be invited to take part in this event, please plan on attending; the night gives us a chance to appreciate the incredible accomplishments of so many of our students.

SENIOR BREAKFAST – Thursday, May 16, 2019 (8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

Seniors are invited to celebrate the end of four years of high school at the Senior Breakfast on Thursday, May 16th, at Avalon Banquets located in Elk Grove Village from 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. No admittance after 8:30 a.m., no dismissal before 11:30 a.m. Tickets will go on sale for the Senior Breakfast in the Maine South Bookstore starting April 29th through May 10th and are \$18. On May 13th the price will increase to \$23. **No tickets will be sold after May 14th and no tickets will be sold at the door.** Students will have time to sign yearbooks, pick-up their graduation tickets, and enjoy each other's company during the breakfast buffet.

SENIOR PROM – Friday, May 17, 2019 (6:00 p.m. to 11 p.m.)

Prom is always an important event in a senior's high school career. Prom will be held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N River Rd, in Rosemont. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with a reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (**no admittance after 7:00 p.m.**). A sit-down, formal dinner will be served from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with dancing to follow. Tickets will be sold in the bookstore from April 29th through May 14th. The ticket price is \$55 per person and will increase to \$70 on May 13th. **No tickets will be sold after May 14th and no tickets will be sold at the door.** Guest forms are required for non-Maine South students and will be available in each SST Office as well as on our website through the Senior Events page. Maine South ID (photo ID for guests) is required. Guests must be under 21 years of age.

Please be sure that your son or daughter is appropriately dressed for each occasion. The attire for Senior Breakfast is business casual (no shorts allowed). **Prom dresses should adhere to our school dress code (long enough to reach mid-thigh and not be low-cut in the front or back) and gentlemen should be dressed in a suit or tuxedo.**

Maine South reserves the right to remove any student from the Senior Breakfast and/or Senior Prom who is not properly dressed or who is not acting appropriately.

No personal checks and no Discover cards accepted as payment for the Senior Breakfast or Senior Prom – Cash, Mastercard or Visa only.

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION – Sunday, May 19, 2019

Commencement is Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Rosemont Theatre. The ceremony will last approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours. **Students need to report to their counselor by 5:45 p.m. on the evening of Commencement.** The theater will be open to students and guests at 5:30 p.m. Please note that the doors on the main floor will close at 6:20 PM in order to allow for the start of the processional. Guests arriving after 6:20 p.m. will be directed to the balcony.

In keeping with academic tradition, the Maine South Commencement is a formal ceremony. Formal behavior is expected of the graduates during Commencement. Students are expected to follow the directions and rules explained to them prior to this prestigious ceremony. Unfortunately, graduates who behave inappropriately before or during the ceremony may be escorted out of the venue and may not take part in Commencement. **I ask that you help us make our Commencement a dignified ceremony by discussing appropriate behavior with your son or daughter.**

Professional photographers will photograph the graduates as they receive their diplomas. **Young men are to wear ties, dress shirts, dress pants, and dress shoes. Young ladies are to wear attire appropriate for such a ceremony – think family wedding or religious service.** This is a dignified ceremony so flip flops are not permitted to be worn. I also encourage young ladies not to wear high heeled shoes as they will be processing and walking across a stage in front of hundreds of people. They should take all precautions necessary to minimize the chances of falling. Additionally, no flowers or corsages will be permitted to be worn or carried during the ceremony.

Please be sure your son or daughter is dressed in accordance with the requirements outlined above and has his or her cap and gown. Any student not adhering to the dress code will not be permitted to walk in Commencement.

ATTENDEE BEHAVIOR: Graduation from high school is a major accomplishment. Please refrain from any outbursts when a student name is called and please refrain from any prolonged acknowledgement for a specific student. Displays such as these can get in the way of being able to hear the next name called. That student and his or her family deserve the same level of recognition and dignity as all students graduating on this evening.

TICKETS: Each student will receive 6 tickets to the Commencement Ceremony which will be distributed at the Senior Breakfast. If your child is not attending the Senior Breakfast he/she can pick up the tickets in their SST office from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 16th. In the event you should require additional tickets, first we ask that you reach out to families you know who will not be using their allotted tickets. If you are unable to secure additional tickets, you may contact my assistant, Christine Bednarek, via email at cbednarek@maine207.org or via phone at 847-692-8206 and request to be added to a waiting list for additional tickets. The number of additional tickets will not be determined until after all student tickets are distributed on Thursday, May 16th.

CAPS, GOWNS AND TASSELS: Sizing information was collected at the beginning of the school year. Caps are one-size fits all up to size 7 ½. Payment was taken care of through your book fees at the start of the year. Cap, gown and tassel are yours to keep. **Your student may pick up their cap and gown in their SST Office starting on Tuesday, May 14th. All Caps and Gowns must be picked up prior to the end of the school day on Friday, May 17th.**

PARKING: There are approximately 500 free parking spaces available, most of which will be taken by our graduates who typically drive separately and arrive earlier than their parents. Once those spots are full, graduates and guest alike will need to find parking elsewhere. There will be plenty of parking in the Convention Center Parking Garage; however, students and guests parking here will need to pay (approximately \$15) to park in the garage.

The Convention Center Parking Garage is a fifteen-minute walk from the Rosemont Theater. Additionally, there will most likely be increased traffic volume due to our graduation ceremony and other events in the area. Please plan accordingly and give yourself and your child sufficient time to arrive. The theater will be open to students and guests at 5:30 p.m. **Again, students must report to his or her counselor by 5:45 p.m. to walk in Commencement.**

DIPLOMAS: Official diplomas will be handed out by counselors following the ceremony.

FLOWERS FOR GRADUATION

Flowers will be available for purchase before and after the ceremony at the Rosemont Theater through Grad Flowers, LLC on the evening of commencement. This service is provided for your convenience should you desire **to present flowers to your graduate after the ceremony.** If you would like further information, please visit the Grad Flowers, LLC website at <https://www.thecommentgroup.com/mainesouthhs/>.

GRADUATION PHOTOGRAPHS

Gradimages will be the official photographer for the ceremony. Proofs of graduation photos will be available, as follows:

1. Go to their website <https://www.gradimages.com/>
2. Enter the student's last name, Maine South High School, and graduation year 2019
3. You will be directed to your student's photos and you can place an order.

For questions or concerns, please contact: Customer Service Department - Phone 1-800-261-2576

All Senior Event information can be found on our website on the [Senior Events](#) page as well. To access the page from the Main South homepage click on the Quick Links button at the top of the page entitled Senior Events.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ben Collins, Ed.D.
Principal