



MAINE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH

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March 2022

Dear Parents and Seniors:

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 2022 Commencement Ceremony. I write to you today to thank you for all the support you have given your student 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 student 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 18, 2022

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 18th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Clyde K. Watson Auditorium. Should your student 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 19, 2022 (8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

Seniors are invited to celebrate the end of their four years of high school at the Senior Breakfast on Thursday, May 19th, at Avalon Banquets located in Elk Grove Village from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. No admittance after 8:30 a.m., no dismissal before 11:00 a.m. **Tickets will go on sale for the Senior Breakfast on the [5 Star app](#) from April 11th – May 4th and are \$25. No tickets will be sold after May 4th and no tickets will be sold at the door.** Students will have time to sign yearbooks and enjoy each other's company during the breakfast buffet. **The attire for Senior Breakfast is business casual.**

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

SENIOR PROM – Friday, May 20, 2022 (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 to 7:00 p.m. **(no admittance after 7:00 p.m.)**. A sit-down, formal dinner will be served from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. with dancing to follow. **Tickets will be sold on the [5 Star app](#) from April 11th – May 4th. The ticket price is \$70 per person. No tickets will be sold after May 4th and no tickets will be sold at the door. No Refunds.**

Guest forms are required for non-Maine South students and can be downloaded [here](#) then returned to your SST Office for approval by the Assistant Principal of Student Supports. Maine South ID (photo ID for guests) is required for admittance. Guests must be under 21 years of age.

Please be sure that your student is appropriately dressed for the occasion. Dresses should adhere to our school dress code and suits or tuxedos are recommended.

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

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION – Sunday, May 22, 2022

Commencement is Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. 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 p.m. in order to allow for the start of the processional.

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 to be 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 student.**

Professional photographers will photograph the graduates as they receive their diplomas. This is a dignified ceremony and students should be dressed appropriately. Students should consider dress shirts, ties, dress pants, dresses, skirts, and dress shoes. Flip-flops are not permitted and high heeled shoes are strongly discouraged as students will be processing and walking across a stage in front of hundreds of people. Additionally, no flowers or corsages will be permitted to be worn or carried during the ceremony.

Please be sure your student is dressed in accordance with the requirements outlined above and has their 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 acknowledgment 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 their 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 with their cap and gown. 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 caps and gowns have been distributed on Wednesday, May 17th.

CAPS, GOWNS AND TASSELS: Sizing information was collected earlier in the school year. Caps are one-size fits all up to size 7 ½. Payment was taken care of through your school fees at the start of the year. Cap, gown and tassel are yours to keep. The plan is to create a one-stop shop for Seniors to pick up tickets, caps, gowns, tassels and yearbooks. This will occur over multiple days/times to support all students. Both the senior survey and FAFSA waiver (if they didn't file the FAFSA) need to be completed prior to cap and gown

pickup. The dates scheduled for pick up are May 13th, May 16th and May 17th. Times are still to be determined and you and your student will receive an email with times and location prior to distribution.

PARKING: There are approximately 500 free parking spaces available, many of which will be taken by our graduates who often drive separately and arrive earlier than their parents. Once those spots are full, graduates and guests 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 Theatre. 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 their 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.thecommencementgroup.com/mainesouthhs/>.

GRADUATION PHOTOGRAPHS

Professional photographers from HR Imaging will photograph the graduates as they receive their diplomas. The photograph proofs will be emailed to parents as well as mailed home for purchasing. For questions or concerns, please contact: HR Imaging Customer Service Department, Phone: 1-815-433-1766 or Email: custserv@hrimaging.com.

All Senior Event information can also be found on our website on the Senior Events pages. To access the page from the Maine South homepage, click on the Quicklinks button at the top of the page entitled [Senior Events](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben Collins".

Dr. Ben Collins, Ed.D.
Principal