

LOS GATOS HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2017 SENIOR PARENT NEWSLETTER

To the Parents, Guardians, and Families of the Class of 2017:

We know well the excitement and angst, frustration, and joy that accompany each of your families in the final months leading to graduation. We are very proud of the Class of 2017, and we want our seniors to finish strong. We have asked that seniors cherish these last weeks as members of the Wildcat community by celebrating all of the people who have helped support them throughout these years, including family, friends, teachers, coaches, and staff at LGHS. We have also called on our seniors to remain focused, to care for one another, and to make healthy and safe decisions in their remaining time at LGHS.

The information in this letter gives you important details about these final months leading to graduation, including our expectations for the Class of 2017 in these important, final weeks of school. *Please read this letter and the accompanying Class of 2017 Activities Schedule carefully.* Additional information can be found on the Senior Page of the school website: <http://www.lghs.net/students/seniors>.

Senior Class Expectations

Your sons and daughters will move through periods of anxiety, relief, fatigue, and exuberance as they encounter the senior cycle of rites: anticipation of college letters, acceptance to colleges, preparation for examinations, and the joy of achieving a great milestone. Throughout this time, your sons and daughters continue to be members of our school community, and we expect them to observe LGHS rules and remain focused in classes.

Observe LGHS Rules... All LGHS rules apply to students while on campus or during school-sponsored activities. In addition to penalties for infractions, such as suspension, **students involved in any of the following activities may not be allowed to participate in senior activities, including marching with their class during the graduation ceremony:**

- Students involved in the possession, sale, transfer, or use of drugs or alcohol;
- Students who are found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- Students involved in any pranks, described as “actions that are significantly disruptive to the educational program” (AR 5310.4, accompanying this letter).

Stay Focused... Though graduation is near, the pacing of senior courses extends through Friday, June 2, followed by a *Senior Week* of activities leading to graduation. For this reason, it’s important for seniors to complete all assigned work and remain engaged until the end of the school year. It’s natural for many students to want to ease back on their effort, but our teachers and the colleges that have accepted our students expect that they will maintain a solid academic standing throughout the second semester. ***Senior Week activities are a privilege for those who are passing all required courses and on track to graduate; those who are not must attend school during this week.***

Graduation Details

Marching Partners...

In May, your son or daughter will be asked to choose a marching partner for the graduation ceremony. Students and their chosen partners will walk down the front steps together as they proceed to the graduate seating area. The marching partner forms will be available in House 2 (the Main Office) in May. You will be notified when the forms become available; the forms will state the due date. Choosing a partner is optional. *Students who do not turn in a marching partner form on time will be assigned a partner randomly.* Students need to fill out only one form for each set of partners, and each student must sign the form. Final lists will be posted in the Main Hall a few days before graduation.

Seating for Graduation...

Seating for graduating will be reserved to those family members holding tickets/vouchers for the event. The school will distribute tickets/vouchers to each senior or senior family in April-May, and families will be notified of the process to obtain seating for the ceremony at that time. The seating area will remain closed during the day, and no individuals will be allowed to “reserve” seats in advanced. Access for disabled attendees will be available during the ceremony. Please watch for further information about seating in April.

Graduation at Los Gatos High School has evolved as a beautiful community tradition. Graduation is not as much a celebration of a single student, as it is a ceremony honoring all those who have worked so hard to support our senior students achieve their goals. We welcome you to this ceremony. We honor our students for their accomplishments as well as thank you for your hard work and dedication. We appreciate all of the support you have given to the LGHS community throughout the past four years.

If you have any questions, please call or email us: Kristi Grasty, Amy Drolette, Alex Chapman, Adam Minyard, and Kevin Rogers.