

PONDEROSA HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR AND SENIOR PARENTS' NEWSLETTER CLASS OF 2019

We are looking forward to a wonderful graduation ceremony. Please take a few minutes and read through this **Newsletter**. We have tried to answer as many of your questions as possible. We have included all the necessary information for both you and your families. If you have questions regarding any of this information, please feel free to call the school and speak with an AP at (530) 677-2281 ext. 2211.

CAPS AND GOWNS:

Announcements ordered from Jostens will be distributed after the Senior Day on April 8, 2019. Distribution of Caps and Gown orders is scheduled for Thursday, May 9. All seniors desiring to participate in the graduation ceremony should have already made their orders or requested a loaner through Jostens. If you have not ordered a cap and gown or requested a loaner yet please call Jostens NorCal at (916) 989-3909 or see your AP. All graduates in the ceremony must wear the standard cap and gown with no other attachments or adornments. If you have questions about this, see your AP immediately. For those students that would care to donate their cap/and or gown following graduation, a donation receptacle will be set up near the diploma pick up area.

SENIOR FINAL EXAMINATIONS:

All Senior final exams must be completed by Thursday, May 23, 2019.

SENIOR CHECK OUT STEPS:

We will pass out your formal check-out forms during the week of May 13th to your 2nd period class. If you don't receive one, pick one up in the Counseling office before finals begin. **The check-out form is due to your Government or Economics teacher by Wednesday May 22, 2019.**

- Be prepared to clear all fines with the finance clerk before you check out. Absolutely all fines must be cleared prior to graduation.
- You must complete the senior survey (directions will be provided at the beginning of May) and have Mrs. Escobar, in the College and Career Center, verify you have completed the survey during break, lunch or afterschool.
- Students who are enrolled in an online course, Community College, and/or Independent Study, and who plan to use those credits for graduation, **must have**

a copy of their report card attached to their check-out form to verify that they passed their course(s). See the instructor for that copy. This verification will be completed by your counselor once your check-out form is turned in.

- **Seniors do not attend classes on Friday, May 24, 2019, but MUST attend graduation practice.**
- Only those seniors who have met all graduation requirements, have turned in their check-out form, gone through graduation practice, and have turned in the **Senior Notification** and **Senior Pledge** (which was distributed to students on April 8, 2019) will be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies.
- Diplomas will be available in the Administration office following the graduation ceremony until 10:00 PM. Those students who do not participate in the ceremony, or do not pick up their diploma following the graduation ceremony, may pick up their diplomas at the school during the week of May 28, 2019 through May 31, 2019 in the Counseling Office. Ponderosa does not keep or make copies of original diplomas.

GRADUATION PRACTICE:

Our only graduation practice is scheduled for 8:15 a.m., Friday, May 24, 2019 in the large gym and stadium. It will last until approximately 10:00 a.m. We want your ceremony to be flawless, so come prepared to listen and to learn the ceremony. All graduates who plan to be in the ceremony must attend this practice. Contact your AP immediately if there are any last minute complications.

FINAL STAGING FOR GRADUATION:

Graduation inspection and final instructions will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the large gym. This final preparation time will be for graduates only. Only graduates of the Class of 2019 and staff will be allowed in this area after 6:00 p.m.

GRADUATION GUEST SEATING:

There are no tickets needed for the graduation ceremony. There are over 3,000 stadium seats and the school rents 1,000 folding chairs which will be placed on the field behind the graduates. This year we will have approximately 400 graduates. Over 4,000 seats will accommodate families and guests. The gates to the stadium will open at 6:15 pm. The ceremony will begin at 7:30 pm.

HANDICAPPED PARKING AND SEATING:

Those families who require handicapped parking and seating should call Tina Parker at 677-2281, ext. 2211, as soon as possible to make reservations. There are a limited number of handicap spots on campus. Only cars with legal, up-to-date DMV handicapped placards or license plates will be allowed to park in the designated handicapped parking areas.

PARKING:

Parents and guests may park in the lower student lot until it is full. Afterwards, parking will be along Ponderosa Road and adjacent streets. Parking every year is very difficult, especially for those families who arrive late. Please plan on coming early if you wish to find a parking spot near the school.

BEHAVIOR AND DRESS:

Each of you and your parents will be given detailed directions regarding your appropriate dress and behavior. Those directions are contained in the **Senior Pledge** which was passed out during the Senior Meeting on April 8, 2019. The dress code requirements will be strictly enforced as will the standards of behavior. Students will not be allowed to adorn/decorate their cap and/or gown with any objects that have not been approved by school administration.

Many parents, students and Ponderosa staff members look forward to and enjoy the traditional graduation ceremony. That being said, the ceremony is not a requirement and should you not desire to participate, your graduation will not be affected and you can still pick up your diploma during the week of May 28-31.

GRADUATE SEATING:

Beginning at lunch on Monday, May 13, 2019, Seniors should report to the College & Career Center and select a specific seat location. If you plan to sit with a friend(s) please coordinate ahead of time. While we will try and keep graduates with their selection, circumstances sometimes require the school to move your seat. You must bring your completed **Senior Pledge** with you at that time in order to receive your selection sticker. Students who haven't turned in the **Senior Notification** will not have a selection sticker available and will be unable to choose a seat.

PORTRAITS:

The school has contracted with a professional photographer to take several individual "handshake" pictures of each graduate during the awarding of the diplomas. Proofs of

the photos will be available online. Graduates will be able to purchase additional pictures if they desire to do so through <http://www.studiomonet.com> or the web address which is: <https://vando.imagequix.com/697T892?keyword=graduation2017&code=graduation2017>

FINAL TRANSCRIPTS

The form to request final transcripts is located on the back of your check out form or you can pick up a transcript form in the Counseling Office and it can be turned in at the same time as your check out form by May 22, 2019 or any time before the end of the year. Seniors must turn in a transcript request form in order to have their final transcripts sent to their college, they do not get sent automatically.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

- **Powder Puff - April 26th**
 - First game kicks off at 5pm in the Stadium - Tie Dye theme
 - Come cheer on our Senior players and coaches!
 - Cost is free with ASB sticker or \$5 without ASB sticker
- **Bruin Regatta - May 10th**
 - Afternoon rally schedule
 - To participate as a contestant, sign-up in E6 starting in May
- **Prom - May 11th**
 - 6pm at the Sacramento Arden Hilton
 - SENIOR ONLY ticket sales from April 11 - 23rd - buy your tickets early, we expect to sell out again this year
 - Cost is \$75 with ASB and \$80 without - includes dinner
- **Farewell Rally - May 17th**
 - Afternoon rally schedule
 - Senior Talent show! Auditions will be held May 1st and 2nd in the choir room. Sign up for your audition time with Mrs. Nisbet in the choir room or Ms. Petersen in E6
- **Senior BBQ - May 17th**
 - After the rally on the blacktop by the pool
 - Free food and drinks! Pool will be open, along with other activities!