



ST. MADELEINE SOPHIE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Building lives of promise. Living lives of faith

April 18, 2019

Dear 8th Grade Families,

The end of the year is rapidly approaching which means our 8th Grade graduation is just around the corner. The weeks leading up to the big event include a variety of experiences that honor the unique achievements of our oldest students as well as continue to establish our own traditions for commencement. The dates and notes below will give you a sense of what is to come. Additional information will be mailed as it becomes available. All dates listed below are full school days of normal hours unless otherwise noted.

- Friday, May 31** *All School Field Day - 8th Grade students are important leaders during this annual event.*
- Monday, June 3** *All projects and assignments are due by the end of the day. Late or missing assignments could jeopardize a student's ability to participate in remaining graduation activities.*
- Tuesday, June 4 - Morning** *8th Grade Retreat - This morning serves as an opportunity to debrief the year and share hopes, fears and dreams about the move onto high school.*
- Tuesday, June 4 - Afternoon** *8th Grade Activity Day - Students will enjoy an off-campus lunch and afternoon activity.*
- Wednesday, June 5** *Students will be recognized in a special way during their last school Mass. The remainder of the day is spent turning in all texts and technology, and cleaning and packing the room.*
- Thursday, June 6** *Graduation Practice - Student will meet at school at 8:30 for graduation rehearsal. 8th grade students will be dismissed at noon for family preparations for graduation.*
- Graduation Pictures - Return to homeroom no later than 3:00pm for last minute details before the individual and class pictures. Students and teachers only.*
- Graduation - Students will be awarded diplomas at the 5:00 graduation Mass. A special reception will follow in the Koinonia Room. Students who have completed all obligations will be free to enjoy a well-deserved summer break following the conclusion of the reception.*

Notes:

- Some graduating classes decide upon a gift to leave the school. This is not a necessity and is not included in the quoted fee. If the graduating families choose to collect for such a remembrance, please contact me so we can coordinate.
- We do not order gowns for the graduation ceremony. As it is a Mass, we expect students to wear **appropriate dress attire**. A good rule of thumb would be to dress as though you are a guest at a wedding. A simple dress shirt and slacks – tie and sport coat optional - for boys and a spring dress for girls is fine. A sweater or wrap for bare shoulders is requested. If you have any questions about the appropriateness of your child's graduation attire, please contact Ms. Martine Romero for advice. Please do not go to the expense of tuxedos or formal gowns or spend significant sums on new clothes. Arriving or departing in a limo will not be acceptable. While we do recognize the significance of the day, it is, after all, an 8th Grade ceremony. Save the flash and flare for high school and college.
- Seating for the ceremony is reserved for the graduates, staff and the designated row purchased at the auction. The church will be available for general seating beginning at 3:00pm. Please do not attempt to reserve pew space prior to that time.
- Since graduation will be held within the context of a liturgy, we request that all attending respect the nature of our sacred space. Polite applause at the appropriate times is encouraged. For family members or guests who might find it difficult to participate in a fitting way, you might suggest to them to wait and attend the reception. The reception should begin by 6 pm, following the graduation ceremony, and will conclude before 7:00pm.
- Official transcripts will be mailed to the high schools in late June after all projects and pending assignments are turned in, grades are recorded, texts and technology returned in proper working order, and financial obligations complete.

We are looking forward to a wonderful milestone for your family and our school. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Ensminger or me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Martine Romero
Principal