

SHAWNEE MISSION SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

RAIDERS

5800 West 107th Street • Overland Park, Kansas 66207 • 913.993.7500

TO: Graduating Seniors and Parents
FROM: Dr. Dain
RE: **Graduation 2023 **UPDATED****
DATE: April 5, 2023

Traditionally, Shawnee Mission South's graduation has been a dignified ceremony followed by celebration. Attached is the calendar that we will follow this spring. Please refer to this calendar for graduation activities and feel free to call us if you have any questions. I hope this advance notice gives you a chance to plan accordingly.

Graduation will be Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 7:00pm

Also attached is the updated 2023 graduation list to date. Please check it and contact Donna Thomas **immediately** with any changes/corrections (donnathomas@smsd.org 913.993.7503). Students must complete all the SMSD graduation requirement to remain on this list!

2023 Senior Final Exam Schedule

Monday, May 8	BLOCKS 1-3-5-7 Senior Final - Hour 7
Tuesday, May 9	BLOCKS 2 – Seminar – 4 – 6 Senior Finals - Blocks 4 & 6
Wednesday, May 10	BLOCKS 1-3-5-7 Senior Finals - Blocks 1 - 3 - 5 <i>(7th block - early MacBook roll-in option)</i>
Thursday, May 11	BLOCKS 2 – Seminar – 4 – 6 Senior Finals - Block 2 <i>(Seminar - 4 - 6 - MacBook check-in)</i>
Friday, May 12	Traditional Schedule - Yearbook Distribution <i>8:30am Senior Breakfast</i> <i>9:30am Graduation Practice</i> <i>10:30am Yearbook Distribution</i>
Monday, May 15	<i>No School for Seniors</i>
Tuesday, May 16	<i>9:30am Senior Recognition Ceremony (Auditorium)</i> <i>6:00pm Graduation Arrival (Assigned Classrooms)</i> <i>7:00pm Graduation (Stadium ~ weather permitting)</i> <i>9:15pm Project Graduation Busses <u>Leave!</u></i>

Friday, May 12th

8:30am – SENIOR BREAKFAST - *All seniors should attend Breakfast in the South Cafeteria provided by Dr. Dain.*

9:30am – GRADUATION PRACTICE – *Mandatory* in order to participate in the commencement ceremony on May 16. Caps, gowns, stoles, cords, and instruction sheets will be distributed at this time.

*****If there is inclement weather on the evening of graduation, we will move to an Indoor Ceremony in the main gym. Indoor ceremony tickets (5 per student) will also be distributed at graduation practice. The morning of graduation – if it looks like we may have inclement weather, families may come to the main office to receive 2 additional tickets.**

10:30am – Yearbook Distribution - Gym Lobby

At the conclusion of graduation practice, seniors may attend yearbook signing in the main gym lobby or leave campus. They may not return to academic areas at this time.

Monday, May 15th

NO SCHOOL FOR SENIORS





GRADUATION DAY



Tuesday, May 16, 2023

9:30am Senior Recognition Ceremony -Auditorium (Seniors receiving awards will receive letters of invitation.) Families are encouraged to attend.

6:00 pm – Seniors ARRIVE and are in assigned classrooms by 6:00pm!

7:00 pm – GRADUATION CEREMONY

Commencement Ceremony outside in the stadium. No tickets needed/No limit on the number of guests. Graduates, family, and friends will be invited to the turf field for photos and celebratory hugs.

****Inclement weather ceremony in the gym. Each senior gets 5 tickets. The auditorium will be set up with closed circuit TV for guests who do not have tickets for admittance to the gym.*

- **Caps & gowns** will be the same fabric/design with the gold stoles as last year. Any caps and gowns used prior to 2017 cannot be re-worn. Caps, gowns, and stoles will be distributed during practice on Monday, May 15th. **If you have not ordered your cap and gown, please contact Jeff Heline at Jostens to do so: jeff.heline@jostens.com or 785-843-2967. Please take care of this ASAP.**
- **Valuables** - Please leave purses and valuables locked in your vehicle or with your parents.
- **Appropriate dress** for graduates: dress pants, shirts, & ties for boys; dresses, slacks/skirts for girls. NO FLIP FLOPS!
- **Photographs** - Professional photographers photograph each student receiving their diploma. Proofs are mailed to you-- no obligation. No one else will be allowed on the field to take pictures.
- **Handicapped persons** - needing assistance should identify themselves to the officer by the auditorium for instructions. Handicapped seating may be reached up either ramp in the middle of the East side of the stadium. Wheelchairs will be allowed on the track. Stadium hosts will assist you.
- **Videotaping** - District personnel videotape the ceremony. The tape will be replayed several times on local cable TV. Videos are available for purchase (more info to follow).
- **Diplomas** - After the ceremony, graduates will go to the Main Gym Lobby to receive Diploma inserts. If Diploma is not retrieved that evening, it will be held in South's main office to pick up later.
- **Final grade cards** will be posted to Skyward in early June.

9:15pm - Project Graduation buses leave SM South parking lot. Bathrooms/locker rooms will be available for graduates to change clothes before boarding the busses.

“Raiders We Ever Shall Be!”