

# ARAPAHOE DRUM BEAT



Natalie Pramenko, Principal  
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Arapahoe High School  
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Main Office: 303-347-6000 • Fax: 303-347-6004  
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<http://arapahoe.littletonpublicschools.net>



## Vision Statement

A leading school where excellence and tradition meet innovation

## Mission Statement

To provide: a community of collaborative learning, rich culture, and meaningful relationships that prepares each student for their future

Dear Arapahoe Parents,

September 2018

This school year has started off well with approximately 400 of our freshmen being introduced to Arapahoe by some of our finest faculty at the **Summer Warrior Orientation** on August 10. The academic focus of this program helped students prepare for the transition to the high school classroom. On the first official day of the school year, our **Link Crew** (consisting of nearly 100 juniors and seniors) helped instill a sense of belonging, school spirit, and confidence in our 560-member freshman class through their Link Day activities. That same day we held **TRIBE** activities and **grade-level class assemblies**. Later that evening we shattered attendance records at our annual **Back-to-School Dance**. Our **fall athletics** are off to a great start, and it promises to be a very exciting school year.

Thank you to all who attended our annual **Back-to-School Night** on August 22. We had a wonderful turn out, and it was a great opportunity for me to sing the praises of our **phenomenal faculty, your outstanding sons and daughters**, and the many **co-curricular** and **extracurricular activities** students at Arapahoe have available to them. Parents received a brochure highlighting some of the **recent data** that backs up Arapahoe's long-standing reputation for **academic excellence**, and for preparing **ALL students** to graduate prepared for meaningful post-secondary opportunities. I have included some of the data presented at **Back-to-School Night** for your review in this copy of the *Drum Beat*, and I will soon be able to share specific information on our newest **National Merit Scholars**.

As you know, we are required to do annual **emergency/safety drills**. We typically practice 3 main types each year. **Fire Drills, Lock Down** (dangerous situation inside) and **Secure Perimeter Drills** (dangerous situation outside). We do not notify families of these emergency drills in advance. We want our students to be prepared for dangerous situations, so it's important we practice them in an authentic manner.

Students and parents need to be aware of AHS behavioral expectations and possible disciplinary action. The first week of school, each student received a personal copy of the **Arapahoe Student Planner**, which contains the AHS Student Handbook in the front section. Additionally, the **LPS Student Code of Conduct** is available online at both the AHS and the LPS websites. Each year the **LPS Code of Conduct** is revised to stay abreast of societal behaviors, laws, and consequences. The **LPS Athletic Code** is also available online, and was discussed with fall athletes and parents on August 20.

We are continuing to develop our **advisement program for our Warriors**. In the spirit of **Warriors taking care of one another**, and built on the foundational pillars of **Tradition, Relationships, Innovation, Balance, and Excellence**, a committee of teacher-leaders worked hard over the summer planning lessons and refining the program. Warriors will be attending 12 **TRIBE** periods spread over the school year, and will earn **.25 elective credits** for attendance and participation each semester. **Students who miss 2 or more TRIBE sessions** will not receive credit for the semester. However, this **will NOT factor into a student's GPA**, as it will be **Credit (C) or No Credit (NC)** on the transcript. We will continue to evaluate the program as we go, and intend to make the lessons meaningful and appropriate for each grade level. Most of our **TRIBE** groups remain intact from last year, though due to new staff and an entirely new freshman class, some changes were required.



I included the new **AHS Cell Phone Policy (see below)** in my August Drum Beat, and also shared it at Back to School Night. It seems to be working well in keeping our students **distraction-free in classes** as well as providing a **much-needed break from these devices**. We **appreciate your support in NOT texting or calling your students during class**. If there is **an emergency, please feel free to call** our main office at **303-347-6000**, and we will help you contact your student.

*Cell phones, earbuds, and other personal electronic devices (PED) are not to be seen in class unless directed to use them by a teacher. Teachers reserve the right to hold cell phones during class. Violations of this policy may result in calls home, detention, or referral to an administrator, which could result in suspension.*

As I mentioned at Back-to-School Night, it is important to talk to your student. Stay in touch on **academic progress** as well as **in their social lives**. Having proactive conversations around making good social choices is an important step in keeping students safe and headed in a positive direction. Being a teenager is fun and exciting, but it can be tough. Not every situation has a happy ending, and teenagers do make mistakes. Being proactive with the tough choices they might face is helpful. Teenagers are not always open to taking parental advice. It is important to listen and to ask a lot of questions. Encourage them to advocate for themselves and to learn to solve their own problems. It will make them more confident and stronger as their challenges become more difficult later in life. Though it may not always feel like it, teenagers do care about what their parents think and value! I have also found a **great resource for parents** that will give you great tips to help start the important conversations with teenagers regarding the safe and **appropriate use of social media**. **Social media advocate, writer and speaker, Josh Ochs**, travels the country teaching 30,000 people each year how to shine online. Check out his website at [Smartsocial.com](http://Smartsocial.com).

Thank you for sending us your outstanding young Warriors. I appreciate your caring as well as your involvement in the Arapahoe community. We hope to see you all at **Parent-Teacher Conferences** on **October 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Sincerely,



Natalie Pramenko  
Principal

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

October 17, 2018

4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Main & Auxiliary Gymnasiums

As a school community, a core value we share is strong communication between Arapahoe High School and your home. All Arapahoe teachers, counselors, and administrators have made a commitment to be in attendance. No appointments are necessary.

In order to allow our teachers to effectively communicate with all parents, please honor the 5 minute time limit. As always, all teachers are available by appointment if your conference requires more time. Questions? Please call 303-347-6000.

## Attention New AHS Families

Wednesday, September 19 from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., in the Cafeteria for refreshments and a meet and greet with the principal, Mrs. Natalie Pramenko and the AHS PTO, **has been canceled due to lack of interest**.

Thank you,  
Arapahoe PTO

## Welcome Back From Your PTO!

Please join us on Tuesday, September 11 at 8:40 a.m. in the Arapahoe Main Office Conference Room for our first PTO meeting. All are welcome to the meeting and we look forward to seeing you there!

The PTO is looking for an After Prom chairperson and an event chairperson to join the Hospitality Team for the following events:

**August:** Staff BBQ

**September:** Staff Breakfast

**February:** Staff Breakfast

**March:** Conference Dinners

**April:** Administrative Asst. Day

**May:** Staff BBQ



If you are interested please email [arapahoevips.lps@gmail.com](mailto:arapahoevips.lps@gmail.com)

I hope your school year is off to a great start! Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Renee Zainer

PTO President

[arapahoepres.lps@gmail.com](mailto:arapahoepres.lps@gmail.com)

### School

### Accountability

### Committee

The School Accountability Committee meets one Thursday a month in the Arapahoe Main Office Conference Room - 4:00-6:00 p.m. The meetings are open to all Arapahoe parents and the community.

#### Meetings for 2018-2019

September 20   October 4   November 15   January 17   February 14   March 14   May 2

**Any questions, please call Assistant Principal Angela Boatright at 303-347-6024.**



## School Picture Re-takes

Friday, October 5th

Were your eyes closed in your school photo? Did you miss school picture day entirely? If so, plan to have your picture re-taken Friday, October 5th in the East Hallway between 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Bring your first photo package to qualify for a retake.**



## Art Department—September News

The **Art Club** is off and rolling for the 2018-19 school year! Our club meets every Thursday after school in room E-1283, from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Members have already begun working diligently on their decades themed float for this year's Homecoming parade which is happening on Saturday, September 15. If you are interested in joining the Art Club and participating in the parade, please stop by every Thursday after school and join in on the fun!

It's never too early to start thinking about **Art Attack!** During the month of March, we will begin collecting work for the annual all-school art show. So start creating masterpieces to submit for the spring Art Attack now!

Check out the October edition of the Drumbeat where we will name our first student "Artist of the Month" for the year! For questions, see any of the teachers in the Art Department, room E1283.

## Student Council News

All Arapahoe Students are invited to attend Student Council meetings and enroll in our pass/fail zero hour class on **Tuesdays at 7:15 a.m. in the Forum.**

We encourage freshmen students to join us in General Council and also attend their class meetings to learn more about Student Council.

### Student Council is proud to announce the schedule for Homecoming 2018:

Monday, September 10	7:00 p.m.—Talent Show
Wednesday, September 12	6:30-8:30 p.m.—Homecoming BBQ (sponsored by DECA) followed by the Homecoming Bonfire on the Baseball field
Friday, September 14	After 6th Period—Pep Assembly in the Main Gym
Saturday, September 15	10:00 a.m.—Homecoming Parade will begin in the west student parking lot and head north on Franklin, east on Easter, through The Streets of SouthGlenn, back to Easter going west to Franklin, and from Franklin back to AHS.
Saturday, September 15	8:00-11:00 p.m.—Homecoming Dance in the Main Gym. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance and \$15.00 at the door. Tickets will be sold during lunch in the cafeteria during Homecoming week. Attendees need to bring their student ID to the dance. Arapahoe students bringing dates from other schools must complete a guest pass <a href="#">form</a> and return to Mrs. Peterson in the Attendance Office. Dance dress is semi-formal. No jeans permitted. Please see LPS Dance Policy below and/or in the Student Planner on pg. 18.

Other activities will also transpire in the cafeteria during Homecoming week. A limited number of Homecoming t-shirts for freshman will also be on sale every day during both lunches.

## Littleton Public Schools Dance Policy

In order to promote a healthy, safe, enjoyable evening for all students, the following procedures will be in place for all Littleton Public Schools' dances. Dances are school-related events, and all LPS and school rules apply.

**Dress:** Students will not be admitted into the dance if dressed inappropriately for a school function.

### **Ladies: Semi-Formal/Formal Attire**

- Strapless/spaghetti straps are allowed
- Dress/skirt length must be within school dress code
- No jeans
- No excessively low cut or revealing dresses or tops
- Public health code requires you to wear shoes at all times (bring something comfortable for dancing)

### **Gentlemen: Semi-Formal/Formal Attire**

- Collared dress shirt (tie recommended)
- Dress pants or slacks; no jeans
- No bandanas, chains, or canes
- Public health code requires you to wear shoes at all times (bring something comfortable for dancing)

**Casual/Informal Attire:** Follow and maintain all LPS and Arapahoe High School dress code rules throughout the dance.

**Dancing Guidelines:** Students who do not maintain an appropriate style of dance will be asked to stop.

- No "front to back" dancing is permitted
- No inappropriate, graphic or suggestive dancing will be allowed
- No simulated sex acts (grinding, etc.)
- No dancing which could cause harm to oneself or others (moshing, slam dancing or crowd surfing)
- Hands on waists or shoulders only

**Violation of these guidelines may result in removal from the dance by an Arapahoe administrator.**

Most high schools have only two dances,  
Homecoming and Prom.

We are fortunate to have more.

High school dances are a privilege.

Let's make ours the best!

Please complete the Guest [form](#) provided by the activities office for all non-Arapahoe guests, no fax copies accepted.

## Counseling Center Information

During the 2018-2019 school year, the Counseling Center at Arapahoe High School will provide guidance services with the following counselor assignments:

<b>Counselor</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Counselor</b>	<b>Alpha</b>
<b>Mr. Ron Lewis</b>	A-CI	<b>Ms. Shannon Kershaw</b>	Le-O
<b>Mrs. Carmen Kittrell</b>	Co-Go	<b>Mrs. Kelly Talen</b>	P-So
<b>Ms. Katie Zimmerman</b>	Gr-La	<b>Mr. Scott Wadsworth</b>	Sp-Z

Should you have any concerns about where your questions are best directed, we have an excellent support staff in the Counseling Center (303-347-6010), and they will be happy to direct you to the proper resource. Our support staff is assigned as follows: Counseling Secretary: **Mrs. Dawn Ives**, Registrar: **Mrs. Jeralyn Baker**, College Application Clerk: **Mrs. Yvette Arnold** and Post Graduate Specialist: **Mrs. Kristin Hall**

Parents and students, please know that test dates are fast approaching! The **PSAT** will be offered on **Wednesday, October 10, 2018**, to juniors and interested sophomores. Note: Sophomores will be taking the State mandated PSAT 10 test Spring of 2019. Students can sign up for the PSAT in the Counseling Center from Wednesday, September 19 through Wednesday, October 3, 2018. Cost of the PSAT is \$20.00. Cash or check *written out to AHS* are accepted.

### Class Meetings:

On September 5th and 6th, counselors will meet with seniors in the Forum during their Social Studies class to talk about the college application process and other pertinent issues. Counselors will meet with sophomores on September 20th, juniors on September 24th, and freshmen on September 25th.

### Arapahoe High School 2018 Colorado State SAT (Class of 2019)

The Colorado SAT- 2 Year Trend - Average Scores

Year	Total Tested		Mean Total Scores		Met Both Benchmarks		Met Reading/ Writing		Met Mathematics	
	AHS	State	AHS	State	AHS	State	AHS	State	AHS	State
2017	496	55,826	1153	1015	70%	38%	77%	61%	72%	41%
<b>2018</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>55,180</b>	<b>1141</b>	<b>1017</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>40%</b>

### Arapahoe High School 2018 National ACT (Class of 2018)

Embargoed until September 2018

National ACT - 5 Year Trend - Average Scores

Graduation Year	Total Tested		English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
	AHS	State	AHS	State	AHS	State	AHS	State	AHS	State
2013	529	56,027	23.2	19.9	23.8	20.4	23.6	20.5	23.5	20.5
2014	556	56,510	22.8	20.1	23.5	20.4	23.6	20.9	23.3	20.6
2015	488	57,328	22.9	20.2	23.5	20.4	23.5	21.0	23.0	20.8
2016	544	58,616	23.6	20.0	23.9	20.0	24.1	20.9	24.2	20.9
<b>2017</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>59,259</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>20.9</b>

### Arapahoe Data

Our students **do not just meet the requirements for graduation** from Arapahoe - they exceed them!

#### Data Supporting Rigorous Course Work - Class of 2018

- **87% 2 or more years of the same world language**
- **96% 3 years or more of science**
- **95% 3 years or more of math**
- **75% Completed a math class above Honors Algebra II**
- **881 AP exams taken by 456 candidates, 79.4% were graded three or higher**

**Concurrent Enrollment (CE)** – In partnership with Arapahoe Community College, Arapahoe High School currently offers courses where students receive both high school and college credit simultaneously. Courses are taught by Arapahoe teachers and are subject to change each year, offering students a wide variety of choices. **Currently 467 students are enrolled in CE classes.**

## **The AHS Homecoming Talent Show Is Coming! Monday, September 10th**

Mark your calendar for this year's Homecoming Talent Show to be held on **Monday, September 10th** in the AHS Theater. You can see some of Arapahoe's most talented students perform at **7:00 p.m. Tickets** for the talent show cost \$5.00 each and will be on sale from Thursday, September 6th through Monday, September 10th in the AHS cafeteria during both lunch periods. Tickets will also be sold at the door on the night of the show. Seating is limited, so buy your tickets early!

**Attention Arapahoe High School  
Parents and Students**

### **PSAT Examination**

**Wednesday, October 10, 2018**



**Stay tuned for posting of Late Start Schedule  
Due to PLC and Testing**

Wednesday, October 10, will be an adjusted schedule for ALL AHS students due to the administration of the PSAT to our junior class. (Interested Sophomores may also take the PSAT with our Juniors. Please note: Sophomores will be taking the state mandated PSAT 10 - Spring 2019)

Juniors (and interested Sophomores) who pre-registered for the PSAT will report to their assigned rooms between 9:10 a.m. and 9:25 a.m.

PSAT Testing will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Lunch for test takers will follow test for 30 minutes

**REGISTRATION—September 19-October 3**

Students wishing to take the PSAT (the cost is \$20, cash or check made out to AHS) should visit the AHS Counseling Office to register with Mrs. Ives to receive their ticket.

**Bus schedules will be posted later**

Last year nearly 500 Arapahoe Juniors and Sophomores volunteered to take this nationally recognized examination. It is preparation for College Board examinations, can produce scholarship money, and is the only exam that qualifies students to attain National Merit Scholar status, when taken during the junior year. We are encouraging every AHS junior to take the PSAT.

In order to provide the maximum opportunity to our Juniors, we are offering the PSAT during our school day at AHS. Please call 303-347-6010 if you have any questions.

# Hey, Juniors!

## PSAT TEST

# Arapahoe High School

**Wednesday, October 10, 2018—Arrive by 9:10 a.m.**

Sign up in the AHS Counseling Center September 19 - October 3

Bring \$20.00 and your photo I.D. when you sign up

### ● How to Prepare:

- Study the Official Student Guide to the PSAT/MNSQT; review, study, and receive test-taking tips at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- There will be FREE Math and Language Arts test prep sessions offered here at AHS during the week of October 2, starting at 7:30 am. Rooms and more info will be posted at a later time.

**Classroom assignments will be posted in the cafeteria on Monday, October 8th**

### Important notes for testing day:

- Cell phones NOT allowed
- Bring Photo I.D. (driver's license or AHS student I.D.)
- Bring Two #2 pencils with erasers—No mechanical pencils!
- Bring a Calculator-See PSAT Student Guide for acceptable models

## Post Grad Center

Seniors, juniors, and sophomores actively use the Post Grad Center, primarily to work in **Naviance Student** to plan for their post-high school years. Naviance Student is a web-based program that provides tools to help students identify career interests and potential majors, build a college OR trade school list, complete pieces of the college application process, and search for scholarships.

Thanks to a dedicated team of trained volunteers, all sophomores have one-on-one **Post Grad Appointments** to work in Naviance Student during an off-hour this semester. Juniors will be scheduled second semester to build on the foundation set during their sophomore appointment. These appointments help students learn to use the tools in Naviance Student while also helping them meet state **graduation requirements** in accordance with ICAP, their Individualized Career and Academic Plan.

In addition to Naviance Student training, the Post Grad Center hosts **College Visits at AHS** for juniors and seniors. The majority of these visits (approximately 100) will occur in September and October. For details on College Visits at AHS, including reasons to attend, to access a "live" list of college visits scheduled, and for instructions on the sign-up process, please click [here](#).

Another way to meet with college representatives is to attend annual **College Fairs** that begin this month. Click [here](#) for a listing of fall fairs in the area and to access sign up links. Sophomores, it's not too early! Juniors, you're just in time! Seniors, one final look!

**Message series:** Students in all grades will receive an email from Post Grad this month. Please ensure the email addresses listed in Infinite Campus are accurate, and parents, encourage your student to read these messages! The senior and junior emails will go out on the 1st of this month while the sophomore and freshman emails will go out on the 15th of this month.

Parents, are you wondering what your student(s) should be doing to prepare for their post-high school years right now? Generally speaking, students should work to their potential academically, engage in AHS activities or in the community, and build relationships with teachers and peers. Specifically, freshman should know that every semester of high school counts! Sophomores should focus on exploring potential career interests, juniors should focus on building their college list, and seniors should focus on the application process for college OR a trade school. Even if your student does not feel ready, encourage them to go through the thought process...eventually, they will get there!

Currently, 180 senior students are taking advantage of **College Application Boot Camp** on PLC Wednesday mornings. Click [here](#) to learn more about Boot Camp. To explore what the Post Grad Center offers the AHS community, please click [here](#).

Mrs. Hall, Post Grad Specialist, can best be reached by email [khall@lps.k12.co.us](mailto:khall@lps.k12.co.us).



Parents of Junior and Senior Students - The annual Close Up Trip to Washington, D.C. is beginning to enroll students who would be interested in traveling to Washington, DC from **March 3-8, 2019**. Mrs. Winn from the Social Studies Department and students who went on the trip last year will be hosting an informational night for parents in in early October.

"Founded in 1971, Close Up is a non-profit that educates and inspires young people to become informed and engaged citizens. Using the nation's capital as a living classroom, students get a "close up" view of government and democracy in action as they interact with the people, places, and processes that make this federal city so unique."

Throughout the week, students explore DC and interact with students from all across the country. With the help of our program instructors, students will consider how the people and events represented in DC's memorials impact their lives today. Close Up participants also take part in interactive seminars with Washington insiders, including journalists, lobbyists, ambassadors, and members of the Armed Services. The highlight of the week for many students is our mid-week Capitol Hill Day, when students and teachers meet with their Congressional delegation on the Hill."

For more information please contact Mrs. Winn at [awinn@lps.k12.co.us](mailto:awinn@lps.k12.co.us).

## Sign up for the National Business Honor Society!

The National Business Honor Society allows students to become nationally recognized as exceptional business scholars. Becoming a member can enhance student's college, scholarship, and employment applications. In order to be a member of NBHS, you must take 3 business classes; have an overall minimum GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in your business courses. Please contact the AHS Business Department to receive an application. **The deadline to submit an application is Friday, September 21st. See a teacher in the Business Department for more information.**



## ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL WARRIORS

CENTENNIAL, COLORADO

### AHS Volleyball

Come Watch our Girls Warrior Volleyball Team play **SEVEN GAMES IN SEPTEMBER!**

*High-energy matches with "Pancakes, Jedi's, Kills, Roofs, and Aces!" Music, Chick-Fil-A meals for \$6, and performances by your Arapahoe Toms at all the home matches!*



**Wednesday, Sept 5th, 6pm at Ponderosa**  
**Thursday, Sept 6th, 6pm v Heritage HOME**  
**Tuesday, Sept 11th, 7pm v Columbine HOME**  
**Monday, Sept 17th, 6:45 at Grandview**  
**Thursday, Sept 20th, 6:45 v Smoky Hill HOME**  
**Tuesday, Sept 25th, 6:45 at Overland**  
**Thursday, Sept 27th 6:45pm v Mullen HOME**

#### AHS Swim and Dive Information for Boys and Girls

Welcome back to our swimmers and divers and a huge hello to our incoming Freshman interested in joining the swim and dive team! We have lots of information to share. To kick off the season for boys and girls, please join us at our Pool Party where you can meet the captains, say hello to teammates and have some fun in our great AHS swimming pool.

#### 2nd Annual Boys and Girls Swim & Dive Pool Party

Anyone on the team from last year and anyone interested in joining either Boys or Girls Swim & Dive Team is invited.



Friday, September 28  
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
AHS Swimming Pool  
Bring your suits and towels

#### AHS Preseason Swimming Technique-Training Sessions

AHS Preseason Swimming Technique-Training Sessions are also offered to anyone interested in swimming this year. These sessions are offered by the AHS Swimming Coaching Staff.

**Session 1** is offered Monday - Friday, September 10th - October 12th from 3:45-5:15 pm. Water polo will be included.

**Session 2** is offered Monday -Thursday, October 15th - November 2nd. 3:45-5:15 pm. Water polo will be included.

#### Join Our Email List!

Finally if you are interested in AHS Girls Swim & Dive and want to be included on email distribution, please add your contact information by texting **GOWARRIORS** to **42828**. This will prompt you to reply with your email address.

## Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

**FBLA has many events planned for this year!** We provide social events, community service and, of course, our competitions! If you are involved in sports or have other after school commitments, you may still be involved. You are eligible to be in FBLA without being in a business class. All grades are welcome 9th-12th.

### FBLA Meeting Dates for September and October (3:35 p.m.-4:15 p.m. in the Forum)

**September 12th**—Introduction meeting, hand-out FBLA applications

**September 26th**—Social Event/early applications can be turned in for 5 extra lettering points

**October 10th**—Trick or Treat Street planning/business competition

**October 13th**—Shred-a-thon (fundraiser) located in the East parking lot

**October 24th**—Pumpkin Decorating (social)

**October 27th**—Trick or Treat Street (community service)

**November 2nd**—FINAL Day to turn in FBLA membership forms

**Our 2018 FBLA Officer Team:** Rachel Kelley, Ellie Schell, Moyini Iyer, Diana Christiansen, Maddy King, Matthew McCoy, Noah Burge, Taylor Yuan, Christine Attai, Kaitlynn Pfannschmidt, Alex Xu. **For more information** contact Mrs. Swank (cswank@lps.k12.co.us) or Mr. Sawyer (csawyer@lps.k12.co.us) in the business office.

## DECA

Arapahoe DECA is excited to embark on another year filled with fun activities and competitions. Visit our [webpage](#) on the Arapahoe website for information on our upcoming events.

### Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Officer team:

President: Maggie Coan

Vice President: Matthew Siayap

Secretary: Emma Weisberg

Director of Finance: Iain Swartwood

Directors of Recruitment: Jake Ott, Kylie Wyatt

Director of Publicity: Ryan Renshaw

Directors of Competition: Spencer Cobb, Grace Cadorette

Come get to know other Arapahoe DECA members and find out more about our organization at Bahama Bucks on Wednesday, Sept. 5th at 5:30!



## Shred-a-Thon Event

Arapahoe Future Business Leaders of America  
**Saturday, October 13th, 2018 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.**

Arapahoe High School

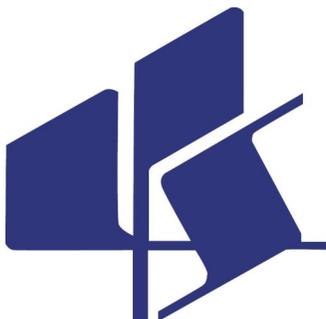
Suggested \$10 Donation Per Box

Bring your unwanted papers and watch as they are shredded in front of you!

## From the Arapahoe Attendance Office Important Attendance Procedures for Students and Parents

Daily attendance is extremely important to the success of students at Arapahoe. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the following procedures.

- All excused absences must be called in to the Attendance Office by a parent or guardian **within 24 hours**. We do not accept written notes. When calling the attendance line, please follow the recorded instructions, speaking clearly. Failure to leave the required information will result in an unexcused absence.
- Students must pick up a pass from the Attendance Office in order to leave school for an appointment during the school day. A parent must call the Attendance Office to arrange for the pass. **The student is responsible for picking up the pass before the scheduled departure time.** Passes are not delivered. If you are calling your student in for an excused tardy, call the attendance office, **but have the student report directly to class.** If they are more than 10 minutes late they can be marked absent. Please have your student sign in at the Attendance Office upon returning from an appointment.
- We recommend that you check student attendance often or weekly by accessing the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. **For more information: Visit page 19 for all attendance guidelines in the AHS Student Planner. Please feel free to call us 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 303-347-6030.**



## LPS Building Safety

With the start of the 2018-2019 academic year, Littleton Public Schools is introducing LPS Connect, a new lobby check-in procedure at every school to improve building safety procedures.

<http://littletonpublicschools.net/district/nr/lps-connect-system-screens-visitors-lps-buildings>

# Arapahoe High School Journalism Information

## Class of 2019 ~ Senior Portrait/Yearbook Information

The deadline for seniors to submit their senior portrait is **Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018**. The photos which were taken at schedule pick-up in August are used for student IDs and are **not** the photos used for seniors in the yearbook. Follow this [link](#) for specifications and information about how to submit your photo.

If you haven't taken your senior portrait yet, and/or if you are concerned about the cost of senior portraits, we offer you an opportunity to have your yearbook photo taken on campus by a professional photographer on **Wednesday, Sept. 12**. Cost is only \$20. [Click here for info](#).

If you would like to contact our Yearbook Photographers & Sponsors to make an appointment, see the list [here](#).

Please make arrangements and appointments with your photographer as soon as possible, if you haven't done so already. Our AHS Yearbook Senior Photographers & Sponsors offer a wide range of prices and options, and will be happy to assist you with your senior portrait planning. Contact us for other low-cost options (if interested), and contact the yearbook staff at [arapahoeyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:arapahoeyearbook@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Class of 2019 ~ Senior Ads

It's not too early for parents and friends of seniors to begin creating their senior memory ads. Senior memory ads are placed in a section of the yearbook reserved especially for parents and friends to congratulate their graduate. Memory ads can be created for individual seniors, for best friends or groups of friends, or for seniors who are members of an athletic team or extracurricular club. A favorite format has been a toddler or baby picture paired with a senior photo together with a special message from parents, siblings or friends.

Senior Memory Ads are due by **Monday, Oct. 22, 2018 (\*this is an updated due date)**. We are currently revising our purchase and submission process, so we will send another email to seniors and parents soon with more information. You can also check the [AHS Warrior Media website](#) for any updates.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [arapahoeyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:arapahoeyearbook@gmail.com).

## KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS FROM THE STUDENT VIEWPOINT...

Subscribe to the **Arapahoe Herald** and receive your copy of the Arapahoe student newspaper at home, September through May, for only \$20

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Attach \$20.00 for a one school-year subscription. Make checks payable to Arapahoe High School.

**Mail check and order form to: Arapahoe Herald Subscriptions**  
**2201 E. Dry Creek Road**  
**Centennial, CO 80122**

**Questions? Call 303-347-6028**

## Performing Arts Department ~ Students of the Month

The Performing Arts Department would like to recognize and thank the following outstanding students who were named Students of the Month for September 2018:



**Vocal Music:**  
**Instrumental:**  
**Theatre:**

**Anna Maji**  
**Reece Carmody**  
**Olivia Nortnik**

Thank you for sharing your talent, energy, and time.

### Arapahoe High School

#### 2018 -2019 Performing Arts Department Calendar

October 11-13	<i>The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon</i>	7:00 pm
November 15	Band & Orchestra Concert	7:00 pm
December 4	Company Showcase	7:00 pm
December 11	Choir Concert	7:00 pm
December 10	Theatre Topics Improv Show	7:00 pm
January 15	5th Grade APA Showcase	During School Day
January 17-18	<i>Grease!</i>	7:00 pm
January 19	<i>Grease!</i>	2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
February 14	Choir Variety Show	7:00 pm
February 21	2nd Grade Choir APA	During School Day
February 28	Band & Orchestra Concert	7:00 pm
April 5-6	<i>The 39 Steps</i> - Company Show	7:00 pm
April 17	Drama Club Show - TBD	7:00 pm
April 27	Band & Orchestra Concert	1:00 & 3:00 pm
May 8	Company Showcase	7:00 pm
May 14	Choir Concert	7:00 pm
May 16	Dept. Awards Ceremony	7:00 pm



# NOTABLE NEWS

WELCOME BACK! WE ARE EXCITED TO BEGIN THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR HERE AT LPS. NUTRITION SERVICES PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN YOUR STUDENT'S DAY. HERE ARE HELPFUL FACTS TO GET THE SCHOOL YEAR OFF TO A GREAT START. FOR OTHER INFORMATION AND HELPFUL TIPS, PLEASE VISIT [LPSNUTRITION.COM](http://LPSNUTRITION.COM) OR THE NUTRITION SERVICES PAGE ON THE LITTLETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEBSITE. YOU MAY ALSO CALL 303-347-3355.

## MEAL PRICES

ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST: \$1.85  
ELEMENTARY LUNCH: \$2.95  
MIDDLE BREAKFAST: \$1.85  
MIDDLE LUNCH: \$3.15  
HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST: \$2.05  
HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH: \$3.25  
ADULT LUNCH: \$4.05

## MEAL COMPONENTS

STUDENTS MUST TAKE THE REQUIRED COMPONENTS FOR A MEAL TO QUALIFY AS A BREAKFAST OR LUNCH. STUDENTS MUST TAKE A SERVING OF FRUIT WITH BREAKFAST AND A FRUIT AND /OR VEGETABLE SERVING WITH LUNCH. IF A STUDENT DOES NOT TAKE THE REQUIRED MEAL COMPONENTS OR TAKE MORE THAN THE REQUIRED COMPONENTS, THE STUDENT WILL BE CHARGED THE INDIVIDUAL MEAL COMPONENT PRICE. A LA CARTE IS NOT A PART OF BREAKFAST OR LUNCH MEALS.

## MENUS

MENUS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [WWW.LPSNUTRITION.COM](http://WWW.LPSNUTRITION.COM) OR ON THE NUTRISLICE APP

## FREE AND REDUCED PRICED MEALS PROGRAM

FREE AND REDUCED PRICED MEAL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED EVERY SCHOOL YEAR.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED ONLINE OR IN PAPER FORM. INCOME GUIDELINES FOR THE FREE AND REDUCED MEALS PROGRAM ARE UPDATED ANNUALLY.

PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO PAY FOR THEIR STUDENT'S MEALS UNTIL THE FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATION IS PROCESSED. APPLICATIONS ARE PROCESSED WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS.

MEAL BENEFIT STATUS FROM THE PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR WILL CARRY OVER FOR THE FIRST 30 DAYS OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR OR UNTIL A NEW APPLICATION IS RECEIVED. IF A NEW APPLICATION IS NOT RECEIVED DURING THE FIRST 30 DAYS OF SCHOOL, THE STUDENT'S MEAL STATUS WILL CHANGE TO PAYING AT THE END OF THE 30 DAYS.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MEAL CHARGES.

## PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL MEALS

PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL MEALS AND A LA CARTE PURCHASES CAN BE MADE BY CASH OR CHECK TO THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA OR BY CREDIT CARD USING OUR ONLINE SYSTEM, [WWW.MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM](http://WWW.MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM) PARENTS WILL HAVE TO SET UP AN ACCOUNT FOR THEIR STUDENT(S) IN MYSCHOOLBUCKS. PARENTS CAN SET UP AUTO PAY, RECEIVE LOW BALANCE NOTIFICATIONS, CHECK THEIR STUDENT'S CAFETERIA PURCHASES AND MUCH MORE. THERE IS A \$2.50 FEE CHARGED WHEN MAKING AN ONLINE PAYMENT.



## STUDENT MEAL ACCOUNTS

LPS STUDENTS WILL USE THEIR DISTRICT ID AS THEIR LUNCH NUMBER. PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO LEARN THIS NUMBER. STUDENT LUNCH FUND BALANCES WILL CARRY OVER TO THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. STUDENT BALANCES CAN BE CHECKED USING MYSCHOOLBUCKS, BY CONTACTING YOUR SCHOOL'S KITCHEN MANAGER OR BY CONTACTING THE LPS NUTRITION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

### MEAL CHARGES

WE UNDERSTAND LIFE HAPPENS AND WE HAVE YOUR BACK. IF YOUR STUDENT DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY ON THEIR ACCOUNT TO COVER THEIR MEALS THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO CHARGE INTO THE NEGATIVE FOR A LIMITED TIME. COMMUNICATION WILL BE SENT HOME IN THE FORM OF LETTERS, EMAILS AND PHONE CALLS TO CLEAN UP NEGATIVE BALANCES.

### EMPLOYMENT

NUTRITION SERVICES IS NOW HIRING FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR. WE CURRENTLY HAVE OPENINGS FOR BOTH PERMANENT AND SUBSTITUTE WORKERS. SUBSTITUTES WORK AS NEEDED AT ALL SCHOOL LOCATIONS. APPLY ONLINE TODAY AT [HTTP://LITTLETONPUBLICSCHOOLS.NET/HUMAN-RESOURCES](http://LITTLETONPUBLICSCHOOLS.NET/HUMAN-RESOURCES).

### SNACK SALES

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE NUTRITION SERVICE DEPARTMENT IS SELF-FUNDED? THIS MEANS THAT THE MONEY THE DEPARTMENT EARNS FROM SELLING FOOD ITEMS TO STUDENTS, FAMILIES AND STAFF, AS WELL AS FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING, MUST COVER THE COST OF FOOD, SALARY & BENEFITS FOR APPROXIMATELY 75 EMPLOYEES, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENSES.

NUTRITION SERVICES WILL BEGIN OFFERING DAILY A LA CARTE OPTIONS AT ALL GRADE LEVELS STARTING IN 2018-2019. THESE OPTIONS WILL MEET THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) SMART SNACK REGULATIONS AND ARE COMPLIANT WITH THE DISTRICTS WELLNESS GUIDELINES. SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED IN SMALL PORTIONS AND ARE FORMULATED TO BE REDUCED IN FAT, SUGAR AND SODIUM. EXAMPLES OF OPTIONS INCLUDE GRANOLA BARS, STRING CHEESE, WHOLE GRAIN COOKIES, BAKED CHIPS, 100% SPARKLING JUICE, POPCORN, REDUCED-SUGAR FRUIT SNACKS AND ICE CREAM.

FAMILIES WILL STILL BE ABLE TO REGULATE WHICH ITEMS THEIR STUDENT IS ALLOWED TO PURCHASE BY FILLING OUT A STUDENT ACCOUNT LUNCH NOTE FORM THAT IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, FROM THE KITCHEN MANAGER, BY CONTACTING NUTRITION SERVICES, OR AT EACH SCHOOLS' BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT. STUDENTS, PARENTS AND STAFF WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PURCHASE A LA CARTE ITEMS WHEN THEIR ACCOUNT DOES NOT HAVE ADEQUATE FUNDS TO COVER THE COST OF THE ITEM.

THESE DAILY A LA CARTE OFFERINGS HELP THE DEPARTMENT COVER OPERATIONAL COSTS, INCLUDING REMAINING COMPETITIVE IN THE JOB MARKET AND THE ABILITY TO OFFER OUR EMPLOYEES WAGE INCREASES ALIGNED WITH THE DISTRICT. OUR GOAL IS TO CONTINUE TO OFFER THE BEST VARIETY OF HEALTHY MEALS TO OUR STUDENTS DAILY ENSURING THAT 100% OF OUR STUDENTS ARE SUCCESSFUL.



# Arapahoe Cheer

## proudly presents the 2018 Mini & Junior CHEER CLINIC

**Clinic: Saturday, September 22**

Check-in: 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.  
Clinic: 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.  
Pick Up: 4:00 p.m.

**Performance: Friday, September 28**

Arapahoe vs. Cherokee Trail  
Varsity Football Game at Littleton Public School  
Stadium:  
199 E. Littleton Blvd., Littleton 80121  
Check-In: 6:30-7:00 p.m. (at LPS stadium)

**Performance at Half Time**

Parent picks up child immediately after  
half time performance



**Cost: \$55**

Includes long sleeved t-shirt, SLING  
BACKPACK, two hour clinic, snack,  
entrance to the varsity game for 1  
parent/adult and child participant(s) and  
supervision until halftime!

Arapahoe High School  
2201 E. Dry Creek Road

Clinic to be held in the main gym &  
auxiliary gym. Check-in for clinic at  
EVENT ENTRANCE on the  
west side of the school.

Ages for Clinic/Performance is K-8<sup>th</sup>  
grade. A special routine will be taught to  
our Junior Cheers in grades 6-8!!

**Premier Spirit Package**

- Includes leggings,  
hair bow and 2  
pom-poms for only  
\$28

**Spirit Package**

- Includes hair bow  
and 2 pom-poms  
for only \$10

**(Add'l) long Sleeved t-shirt  
size: \$20**

- Youth XS (4)
- Youth S (6-8)
- Youth M (10-12)
- Youth L (14-16)
- Youth XL (18-20)
- Adult Small

**(Add'l) Black Leggings  
w/Logo: \$20**

- Youth S
- Youth M
- Youth L
- Adult XS
- Adult Small

Total due including \$55  
registration and optional  
spirit wear: \$\_\_\_\_\_

To register, visit [www.ahswarriors.org/page/3373](http://www.ahswarriors.org/page/3373)

Then send your check payment to the address below. You may also mail this  
completed form along with a check made payable to **AHS Cheers Booster Club** (please  
put your child's name in the memo field) and send to:

**AHS Mini Cheer, % Hollie Hinton: 1652 E. Nichols Ln, Centennial, CO 80134**

Questions? Email [ahsmnicheers@gmail.com](mailto:ahsmnicheers@gmail.com)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE is Friday September 8, 2018**

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Number \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

School Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate Free Clinic Shirt Size (see sizes on left): \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for my child to participate in the Mini-Cheers Clinic. I will  
not hold AHS cheerleaders, Coaches or Staff responsible for any injuries.

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## The Coffee Break

### Deputy James Englert and Deputy James Mason School Resource Officers, Arapahoe High School



With a new school year up and running, we would like to introduce ourselves to those who don't know us. Deputy James Englert; 11<sup>th</sup> year at Arapahoe High School. Deputy James Mason; 4<sup>th</sup> year at Arapahoe High School. We work for the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office and are assigned to Arapahoe High School as School Resource Officers.

Our first priority as SRO's is the safety of the students, staff, and school. We also deal with situations when laws may have been broken. Our favorite part of our job is interacting and talking with students. This includes speaking in classes on many law enforcement related topics, but feel free to say hi and talk with us anytime!

A large portion of our job also involves dealing with issues around the school such as traffic concerns near the school and in the surrounding neighborhoods. We are often in the school parking lots watching for students who are making poor decisions.

We would like to remind everyone of a few guidelines:

- Students, **PLEASE** obey the crosswalk signals and cross only at crosswalks.
- Please drive safely and responsibly around the school and in the neighborhoods.
- If you park on Franklin St., make sure you are parked between the signs.
- Please make good choices at and around the school and be respectful of the community.
- If you see something that is suspicious, please tell one of us or let an administrator know.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to send one of us an email or give us a call. Our desk number at the school is listed below. The number at the Sheriff's Office is 303-795-4711; they can reach us at any time. You may also call that number if you need a Deputy to respond or if you need to report a crime.



**Please feel free to contact  
us directly at:**

[jenglert@lps.k12.co.us](mailto:jenglert@lps.k12.co.us) and  
[jmason@lps.k12.co.us](mailto:jmason@lps.k12.co.us)  
303-347-6086



## Alive @ 25 Class Free for AHS Students Monday, September 17, 2018

**3:45-8:15pm** (bring a snack)

At AHS in room W1874

Register at <http://aliveat25.us/>

Password is arapahoe

Alive at 25 is a highly interactive program that specifically targets young drivers between the ages of 15 and 24 and encourages them to consistently practice safe and defensive driving habits. Traffic crashes are the leading cause of teen fatalities, accounting for 44% of teen deaths in the United States. The program utilizes workbook exercises, interactive media, group discussions, role-playing, and lectures to help drivers develop the lifesaving defensive driving skills and strategies which will keep them safer on the road. All young people, ages 15-24, in the community are eligible to participate in Alive at 25. For further information on how to use this certificate to obtain a driver's permit, please [click this link](#).

If you miss this class, check the school's website for the next class available to Arapahoe students. For questions, call Deputy James Englert at 303-347-6086.



A community event to promote a healthy and active lifestyle while building support for Littleton Public Schools.

**Sunday, October 28, 2018**

**An event for everyone**

*Event starts and finishes at:*

Littleton Museum  
6028 S. Gallup Street  
Littleton, CO 80120

*Schedule of Events:*

Race Day Registration	7:00 am—9:30am
10K Run/Walk	8:00 am
5K Run/Walk	8:30 am
Kids Fun Run	9:30 am

**Please Join Us!**

For more information and to register, visit:

[RunTheStride.com](http://RunTheStride.com)



All 5K & 10K participants will receive this awesome long-sleeved performance shirt as shown here →

**NOTE:** Fun Run participants receive a special finisher ribbon. Shirt not included.



All proceeds from this event benefit the LPS Foundation. LPSF has provided over \$6 million in funding to support district-wide programs, health & wellness initiatives and teacher classroom grants. Dedicated to making the educational experience the best for ALL students, LPSF will continue the tradition of funding programs that provide equity and promote academic excellence.

# 2018-2019 Dates to Remember:

Monday, September 03, 2018	- Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
Monday, September 10-Friday, September 14, 2018	- Homecoming Week
<b>Wednesday, September 19, 2018</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Friday, September 28, 2018	- End of Six Weeks
<b>Wednesday, October 03, 2018</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
<b>Wednesday, October 17, 2018</b>	- <b>Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.</b>
Thursday, October 18, 2018	- In-Service – <b>NO STUDENTS</b>
<b>Friday, October 19, 2018</b>	- <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>Wednesday, October 31, 2018</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Friday, November 09, 2018	- End of Six Weeks
<b>Monday, November 12, 2018</b>	- <b>Mandatory Winter Athletic Night for Parents &amp; Students</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 14, 2018</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Monday, November 19-Friday, November 23, 2018	- Thanksgiving Break
Monday, December 03, 2018	- Freshmen (Class of 2023) Showcase
<b>Wednesday, December 05, 2018</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Tuesday, December 18-Friday, December 21, 2018	- Final Examinations
Friday, December 21, 2018	- Semester Ends/Last Day for Students
Monday, December 24-Friday, January 04, 2019	- Winter Break
Monday, January 07, 2019	- In-Service – NO STUDENTS
Tuesday, January 08, 2019	- First Day Second Semester
<b>Wednesday, January 16, 2019</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Monday, January 21, 2019	- Martin L. King Day – NO SCHOOL
<b>Wednesday, January 30, 2019</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
<b>Wednesday, February 13, 2019</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Friday, February 15, 2019	- End of Six Weeks
Monday, February 18, 2019	- Presidents' Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
<b>Monday, February 25, 2019</b>	- <b>Mandatory Spring Athletic Night for Parents &amp; Students</b>
Thursday, March 07, 2019	- <b>Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday, March 08, 2019</b>	- <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Monday, March 11-Friday, March 15, 2019	- Warrior Week
<b>Wednesday, March 13, 2019</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Monday, March 25-Friday, March 29, 2019	- Spring Break
Friday, April 05, 2019	- End of Six Weeks
Monday, April 15, 2019	- Freshman (Class of 2023) Registration
<b>Wednesday, May 01, 2019</b>	- <b>TRIBE Schedule</b>
Saturday, May 04, 2019	- Prom/After Prom
Friday, May 17, 2019	- Last Day for Seniors
Monday, May 20, 2019	- Final Examinations/Senior Awards Convocation
Tuesday, May 21-Thursday, May 23, 2019	- Final Examinations/Last Day of School
<b>Friday, May 24, 2019</b>	- <b>NO SCHOOL/End of Six Weeks</b>
Saturday, May 25, 2019	- <b>GRADUATION Class of 2019, 1:00 p.m. at D.U.</b>



**Students, if you still do not have a school ID, please see Mrs. Arnold in the Bookkeeping Office as soon as possible.**