

April 13, 2023



To The Parents/Guardians of Graduating Seniors:

We want to keep you updated on dates and any graduation information. Our graduation ceremony will be held in the AHS gymnasium on May 25, 2023. Please note the items below as they pertain to the schedule for seniors as we approach graduation.

Graduation Ceremony

Tickets are **not** required to attend the graduation ceremony; however, it is important to know that the AHS gymnasium does have a seating capacity. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. Any guest overflow will be directed to our Ceglarek Fine Arts Center (CFAC) where the graduation ceremony will be live streamed. If you have handicapped seating needs, please contact Mrs. DeGroot at degrootkri@apsfalcons.net

Senior All-Nighter

If you are looking for information on the Senior All-Nighter, please check on our website under the Class of [2023 Link](#). The link is located on the far right side of the page.

Graduation Announcements/Caps and Gowns/etc.

These items will be handed out to students at school on **Friday, April 21** during our lunch period. **Any student who needs to order any graduation supplies needs to place the order directly with Jostens at 1.877.475.7027.**

Baccalaureate Service

A Baccalaureate service has been planned by a student committee and will be hosted by **Wellspring Church**. This ceremony will take place on Sunday, May 21, at 2 pm. This is a voluntary church service for graduates. Those who attend are asked to wear their graduation gown and stole but not their caps. Students who choose to attend are asked to arrive one-half hour prior to the start of the program.

Graduation Day/Ceremony/Rehearsal

Graduation will take place on Thursday, May 25, at 7:00 PM in the high school gymnasium. **Rehearsal for students, which is mandatory, will begin in the gym at 7:45 AM** that same morning. Rehearsal will last until 9:30 AM. On the evening of graduation, graduates should arrive **no later than 6:15 PM** and meet in the CFAC for graduation preparation. We will be taking a class picture at that time. The graduation committee has requested that jeans and tennis shoes not be worn on graduation day. Please note: **Only senior students fulfilling the requirements for graduation up to and including their last day of school on May 12 will be eligible to take part in the graduation ceremony. Social issues (skipping school, "Senior Pranks," etc.) that may take place between now and graduation could result in the loss of the privilege to take part in the graduation ceremony.**

Senior Exams/Last Day of School for Seniors

Senior Exams will take place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 15-17. Seniors who are required to take exams must attend on these dates. Individual teachers will determine exam requirements based on student grades and attendance. The final “regular” day for seniors will be Friday, May 12, assuming cooperation from the senior class both socially and in attendance (no senior prank and no senior skip day). Those seniors who do not have to take an exam are not required to attend school during exam periods on May 15, 16, and 17.

Senior Honors Convocation

The Seniors Honors Convocation will take place on Monday, May 22, in the Ceglarek Fine Arts Center. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. Scholarships and departmental awards will be presented. Honorees will receive a written invitation for the event. We ask that all honorees dress appropriately and not wear t-shirts, jeans, shorts, or sandals. **If your child has been awarded any academic awards or scholarships, please inform Mr. Fogel and Mrs. VanDyke via email at: vandykelau@apsfalcons.net or fogeljas@apsfalcons.net** . Colleges and outside scholarship agencies do not always contact the school with this information.

****From the Counseling Department****

Information Due for Senior Honors Convocation

This information will be presented during the Senior Honors Convocation on Monday, May 22, at 7 PM in the CFAC. Seniors need to inform the AHS Counseling Office of all scholarships they have received from any college they have been accepted to and any other private scholarship agency/organization. We need to know the name of the scholarship and the dollar amount it is worth (please indicate whether the scholarship is renewable over multiple years).

Decision Day

Allendale High School will join schools across Michigan to celebrate Decision Day. Decision Day is the day when seniors announce their final decision about which post-secondary institution they will attend in the fall. **We will celebrate Decision Day on Monday, May 1.** We will also celebrate all other choices seniors have made regarding their future plans, such as going on mission trips, signing with a branch of the military, or joining the workforce. We will be encouraging all students and staff to wear a college, military, or work-place t-shirt or sweatshirt in support of our seniors’ futures. We will also have a reception with cake for seniors and staff during both lunch periods. Seniors will have a chance to put their plans for next year on posters that will be hung in the hallways for all to celebrate.

****A note from the Food Service Department****

The Food Service Department thanks you for your child's business throughout their years at APS. We wish them success in all future endeavors.

All money owed by students must be paid prior to graduation. You may check your student's account through allendale.familyportal.cloud or by calling the Food Service office at 616-892-5591. Please watch the negative balance emails that go out in early May. Charging after Spring Break is kept to a minimum.

If your senior has money left on their lunch account, an email will be sent stating the balance mid-May, and here are your options:

- If there are other children in the household, Food Service will transfer money to the sibling account once your senior has finished classes.
- If the remaining balance is over \$ 5.00, a check will be mailed.
- If the remaining balance is under \$ 5.00, a cash refund will be given to the student on the day of graduation practice.
- Or, you may reply to the email and donate the remaining funds to Food Service to be used to help another family.

Calendar of Events

Seniors Last Day	May 12		
Senior Exams	May 15-17		
Baccalaureate Service	May 21	2:00 p.m.	Wellspring Church
Honors Convocation	May 22	7:00 p.m.	Ceglarek Fine Arts Center
Graduation Rehearsal	May 25	7:45 a.m.	Begin in Fine Arts Center/Gymnasium
Graduation Ceremony	May 25	7:00 p.m.	AHS Gymnasium

If you have any questions regarding graduation, the end of the year schedule, or any other senior activities, please call the high school office at (616) 892-5585, or email me at the address at the bottom of this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Troy VanderLaan
Principal
Allendale High School
New Options High School
vanderlaantro@apsfalcons.net