



# Olathe South Senior High School

Olathe Unified School District #233

Commitment to Excellence

1990-91 National Excellence in Education Award Winner --- U.S. Department of Education

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April 6, 2021

Dear Olathe South High School Class of 2021 and parents/guardians:

In a “normal” year, this time of year would be a surreal time for many of you as the roughly 2,400 days of your K-12 education have ended. With this reality, there are many different emotions that may be experienced – excitement, apprehension, anticipation, etc. This is a time to reflect on the culmination of many things, the beginning of other opportunities, and the relationships created and the experiences that shaped past years and who we have become. The priceless relationships with family, friends, teachers, mentors, and sponsors of various clubs and activities - those associated with school and those that are not – are the foundation with which we move forward.

This year has been anything but “normal.” The relationships and those people in our lives have come to mean so much more and we’ve learned to appreciate not only the people but the memories associated with those that we’ve spent precious moments with.

Without a doubt, we all experience highs and lows. **All** of these experiences contribute to the person we become. Although the chapter that is the Olathe South experience has ended, we truly believe you will look back on this chapter of your life fondly and as a time that helped to build the foundation for the person you are to become. As a member of the Olathe South Class of 2021 you will always be a part of our Falcon Family.

Again, it is difficult to believe the time has come for Commencement. The definition of *Commence*: to begin, start, or originate. As you consider the “endings,” also recognize the beginnings and opportunities ahead of you. As we have this opportunity to look back, we often catch ourselves thinking of the members of the classes to come before you and all they accomplished. Class of 2021 ... you should be proud that you have had a positive impact on Olathe South and made it, along with those of us who have had the blessed opportunity to grow with you, better in so many ways. You will always be a Falcon!

## **Fees owed and items still in student possession**

This is a reminder about the expectations associated with any financial obligations. It is important to note that an individual’s diploma will not be distributed until all obligations have been satisfied. Any student who has a balance due for items such as registration fees, lost books (including library), athletic equipment, etc. from this year or any prior years, should make payments online using the district payment system – <https://ks-olathe.intouchrecepting.com/>.

Families with prior debt have already been notified through the District billing process. With 2020-21 year-end collections of materials, there may be additional notifications. The final notification will occur on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Payment will be accepted until 3:30pm on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. After 3:30pm on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, no payments or return of items will be accepted until Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> during office hours 7:30am to 3:30pm. Once the obligation is satisfied, the diploma will be released.

### **Tuesday & Wednesday, May 11 and 12 - Graduation Cap, Gown, Stole**

- **Distribution:** Commons during lunch on 5/11 and before school on 5/12.

### **Tuesday & Wednesday, May 11 and 12 – Senior finals**

- **Tue., May 11 Even Block Finals during hours 2, 4 and 6**
- **Wed., May 12 Odd Block Finals during hours 1,3, 5 and 7**

### **Thursday, May 13 – Last day for Seniors**

- Breakfast provided by Chris Cakes
- Graduation tickets (six per student), instructions and NHS cords distribution
- Laptop return
- Notification of any fees owed or items needing to be returned

### **Saturday, May 15 – Commencement**

- If the weather forecast for graduation day looks as if it may adversely affect the plans for outdoor Graduation at CBAC, a decision by the district to move the graduation to the following Monday-Wednesday may be necessary. If a decision needs to be made regarding weather, **that decision will be made by 4:30pm on Saturday May 15** and notification (via email, text message as well as posted on the Olathe South and Olathe School District website) sent out at that time indicating that graduation has been moved to the following Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.
- **6:00 p.m. Seniors report** to the CBAC Soccer field.
- **7:00 p.m. Commencement** begins at CBAC. Gates to the bleachers will open at 5:30 p.m. Parking may not be available until the Olathe North Ceremony is completed.

GradImages is the official graduation photographer for Olathe South. Proofs will be ready to view online as early as 48 hours after the ceremony. Please consider preregistering at <http://GradImages.com/Preregistration> so GradImages can provide your complimentary proofs as quickly as possible.

### **Senior Class of 2021:**

It has been an outstanding school year at Olathe South High School. We encourage each of you to look after yourselves and each other in the days ahead. There will be choices with which you will be faced. We have faith that you will consider how precious life is and how quickly things can change if poor decisions are made. Be cautious, make good choices, and consider your options carefully to make decisions which create positive opportunities and memories rather than unfortunate events to be regretted.



Dr. Dale Longenecker  
Principal