



# SENIOR PARENT NIGHT

Thompson High School

October 17, 2022

# ORDER OF THE EVENT

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**IMPORTANT  
REMINDERS  
ABOUT  
STUDENT  
SERVICES**

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**PREVIEW OF  
SENIOR YEAR &  
SAVE THE DATES**

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**COLLEGE &  
CAREER  
PLANNING**

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**STUDENT SERVICES**




# STUDENT SERVICES STAFF

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Dr. Tonya Mosley, Freshmen  
Mr. Chase Hodges, Sophomores  
Mrs. Danleigh Jenkins, Juniors  
Mrs. Marsha Roach, Interventionist  
Mrs. Sue Dennis, Registrar  
Mrs. Lynn Hicks, Student Services Assistant



Mrs. Heather Myles, Seniors ([heather.myles@acsboe.org](mailto:heather.myles@acsboe.org))  
Mrs. Pam Vickers, College Counselor ([pam.vickers@acsboe.org](mailto:pam.vickers@acsboe.org))  
Mr. Tony Huntley, Career Coach ([anthony.huntley@acsboe.org](mailto:anthony.huntley@acsboe.org))



# ACS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must pass all core subjects (English, Science, History and Math) plus all required electives
- **Standard Endorsement** – 24 credits
- **Advanced Endorsement** – 26 credits  
*Algebra II/Trig, one foreign language credit, and two semesters of AP/Dual Enrollment credit*
- **Advanced with Honors Endorsement** – 26 credits  
*Precalculus or higher math, Chemistry, two credits in the same foreign language, and six semesters of AP/Dual Enrollment credit*



# VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN DISTINCTION

## Valedictorian

4.0 GPA or higher  
(weighted)



## Salutatorian

3.8-3.9 GPA  
(weighted)

Must be pursuing the Advanced Academic Endorsement with Honors

These distinctions are typically announced in February, after first semester grades have been added to transcripts. Valedictorians and Salutatorians receive a medallion during Senior Honors Night.

# HONOR CORDS/STOLES

Awarded on Senior Honors Night

Club sponsors coordinate this process each spring

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Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diploma Candidate  
Advanced Placement (AP) Seminar Candidate  
Ambassadors  
American Sign Language Honor Society  
Beta Club  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America/Peer Helpers  
Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scouts  
First Priority Leadership (officers)  
French Honor Society  
Future Business Leaders of America  
Future Teachers of America  
HOSA: Future Health Professionals

International Thespian Society  
Key Club  
Kitty Hawk Air Society  
Leadership Shelby County  
Leo Club  
Model United Nations  
Mu Alpha Theta  
National Honor Society  
National Technical Honor Society  
Quill & Scroll Honor Society  
Spanish Honor Society  
Student Government Association

# COLLEGE APPLICATION TIPS

- Seniors should create and regularly check a **professional email address** (*i.e., johnsmith2023@gmail.com*)
- We are participating in **College Application Week** (October 17-21), when many in-state colleges/universities will waive their application fees
- Many application deadlines are **December 1** or earlier so be mindful for your prospective college/university
- List Mrs. Vickers as the **counselor** on ALL college and scholarship-related applications (*i.e., Common Application or Common Black College Application*)
- Many schools offer **application fee waivers** if you qualify for free/reduced lunch. If this applies to you, be sure to complete a free/reduced lunch form. I cannot grant waivers if this is not done.
- Request your **transcript** through Parchment each time you apply to a college. Visit the THS website for the Parchment link. There is no cost to send a transcript.
- **ACT/SAT** scores are no longer included on transcripts. You must request those directly from the testing agency
- Create a list of important accomplishments for a **resume** (*Diploma Type/GPA, Work Experience, Volunteer Experience, Awards/Certificates, Extracurricular Activities, Hobbies/Skills/Abilities*)
- Scholarship bulletins are distributed by Mrs. Vickers via email each month. The latest was distributed tonight.



# FAFSA COMPLETION IS NOW A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT!

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid determines your eligibility for grants (that do not have to be repaid), student loans, and work study (a job on a college campus).
- The FAFSA application is available as of October 1, 2022 and requires your 2020 income tax returns. A FAFSA worksheet was distributed tonight to provide all the information you will need to successfully file your FAFSA.
- On April 8, 2021, the Alabama State Board of Education approved a resolution requiring every graduating senior to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Completing the FAFSA is important for several reasons. Research links FAFSA completion to postsecondary enrollment. Roughly 92 percent of students who complete the FAFSA enroll in postsecondary education the following fall term. Alabama high school graduates leave over \$47 million in federal grants on the table each year because they do not complete the FAFSA.
- Students who do not complete the FAFSA may submit a **FAFSA Non-Participation Waiver** form that must be signed by the parent/guardian, student, principal, counselor, and superintendent. A copy of this form is available from [pam.vickers@acsboe.org](mailto:pam.vickers@acsboe.org).

# NCAA/NAIA ELIGIBILITY

## IF YOU PLAN TO PLAY A SPORT IN COLLEGE:

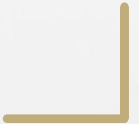
- Register for the NCAA or NAIA Clearinghouse (depends on the college/university you plan to attend)
- Registration is entirely online
- Fee is approximately \$100, payable at the time of registration
- Fee waivers are available for students who qualify for free/reduced lunch and have completed the necessary paperwork with the THS Child Nutrition office
- After you've registered, Mrs. Vickers will send your current transcript and a final transcript upon graduation
- See Mrs. Vickers for questions or assistance





# MILITARY

- We will have recruiters from all branches of the Armed Forces on campus this fall/spring.
- Interested students must take the ASVAB (*tentatively given at THS in early spring or at a military recruiting office*).
- ROTC programs and National Guard offer scholarships for college.
- After graduation, 4-6 years of military service may be required.
- Several recruiters are attending the fair this evening.
- Contact Mrs. Vickers if you wish to speak with a recruiter.





**SENIOR  
DATES/EVENTS**

# IMPORTANT SENIOR DATES

- Please refer to the **Yearbook** handout for important dates for senior ads, yearbook orders, and senior portraits
- **Parade of Graduates/Cap & Gown Pickup** – Friday, April 28, 2023
- **Senior Honors Night** – Thursday, May 18, 2023
- **Senior Breakfast/Senior Day Program/Graduation Rehearsal** – Monday, May 22, 2023. Parents are invited to decorate tables/centerpieces (*a tradition since 2015*). More information will be shared in January.
- **GRADUATION DAY** – Tuesday, May 23 at 6:00pm (Bartow Arena)



# HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH

- We will communicate updates and important information primarily via EMAIL throughout the year.
  - Seniors, please check your ACS student email account every day. If not, you will miss info!
  - Parents, please make sure THS has your correct email address. Check your email daily!
- Periodically, important information may be mailed to the address we have on file. If you move, please make sure we have your current address.
- **Mr. Huntley is available should you need assistance related to career planning/interests** ([anthony.huntley@acsboe.org](mailto:anthony.huntley@acsboe.org)); **Mrs. Vickers is available by appointment for regarding college planning** ([pam.vickers@acsboe.org](mailto:pam.vickers@acsboe.org)).
- If you have questions about anything related to school or your senior year, please reach out directly to either senior sponsor for assistance. We are always willing to help!

## Senior Sponsors

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Mrs. Pam Vickers - [pam.vickers@acsboe.org](mailto:pam.vickers@acsboe.org)

Mr. Brad Boy - [bradley.boy@acsboe.org](mailto:bradley.boy@acsboe.org)  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Administrator

# GENERAL COLLEGE SEARCH & FINANCIAL AID ADVICE

**Troy University**

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Mr. Gus McKenzie, Regional Recruiter



**Thank you for attending!**

**The Fair will be held on the A, B, C and E Halls.**