

SIERRA LINDA HIGH SCHOOL



# SENIOR INFORMATION

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## GRADUATION CLASS OF 2015

**MR. TIM MADRDID, PRINCIPAL**

**THOM LUEDEMANN , ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**

**DR. JOHN RENOARD , ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

**MS. Christina Valenzuela, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/DISCIPLINE & ATTENDANCE**

**MRS. DENISE SALDAMANDO, LEAD COUNSELOR**

**10/31/2014**

# Sierra Linda High School



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*Dream - Believe - Strive - Achieve*

October 31, 2014

Dear Senior Parents/Guardians:

We are looking forward with great anticipation to graduation for the Class of 2015 at Sierra Linda High School. This will be the fourth graduating class in the school's history. Graduation is scheduled for May 20, 2015 at University of Phoenix Stadium at 1 pm. We are planning a very dignified ceremony that you and your family can enjoy and celebrate. This letter is to inform you of our expectations regarding the responsibilities of our graduating seniors.

We expect students to be positive leaders on our campus at all times. Students are not only representing their school, but also their family and their community. In addition, students are expected to meet the established academic requirements for graduation from the Tolleson Union High School District, including passing all three areas of the AIMS test and completion of their senior research paper.

This letter also serves as notification that at any time during the school year if student behavior or choices warrant disciplinary action, he/she may not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. A graduation committee is established that includes teachers and administrators who will review all seniors and their disciplinary records and make the determination as to whether or not the student will be allowed to participate in the ceremony. Exclusion from graduation can occur up to the minute students are lining up to receive their diploma. Students involved in any senior pranks on or off campus, may not be allowed to participate in graduation.

In order for us to meet our goal of a dignified ceremony, we will need your cooperation and support. Thank you so much for your assistance in making graduation a huge success and a graduation you and your family can remember as a highlight of your student's educational career at Sierra Linda High School.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tim Madrid  
Principal

3434 S 67<sup>th</sup> Ave • Phoenix, AZ 85043  
623-474.7700 / FAX 623-474.7790

## Senior Calendar – Important Dates

### Class of 2015

#### Second Semester (January – May)

December 22 – January 2	Winter Break
January 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Spring Semester
January TBD	Financial Aid Night
February 23-25	AIMS Writing, Reading, Math
February 26	Senior Parent Meeting
April 18	Prom
April 27	Senior Debts Posted in Bookstore
May 4	Graduation Speeches Due
May 13	Cap & Gown Delivered – if debts paid
May 15	Credit Retrieval Program Grades Due
May TBD	Scholarship Night
May 13, 14, 15	Senior Final Exams
May 18 & 19	Graduation Practice/Senior Breakfast
May 20	Graduation Ceremony!!!!!!!

### Bookstore Information:

1. Seniors will be notified in April regarding books they have checked out to them and any debts owed. Any books currently in use may be returned to the teacher at anytime.
2. All outstanding debts (lost books, lost athletic equipment, class fees, etc.) to the school must be paid to the bookstore by prior to graduation rehearsal.
3. If a book has been lost a bookstore receipt for full payment of the book is necessary to clear the debt. All books and fees must be cleared by 2:30pm on Tuesday, May 19.

### Guidance Information:

1. You should know where you stand as far as credits are concerned. Many seniors receive one or more F's and/or incompletes for the first quarter. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW EXACTLY WHERE YOU STAND.** If you have doubts, **ASK!!!!**
2. Seniors applying for admission at colleges, universities or other postsecondary institutions should be submitting your applications **NOW**. Scholarship opportunities are posted in the newsletter that is posted online at the beginning of every month. Apply, apply, apply – scholarships are like the lottery . . . you can't win unless you buy a ticket.
3. Requests for transcripts can be made in the Guidance Office by filing out the Transcript Request Form. If you anticipate needing a particular guidance service (letters of recommendation, fee waivers, counselor signatures, etc.) please make an appointment with your counselor. **DO NOT** wait till the last minute. Please allow us sufficient time.
4. All Seniors should apply for financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA.ed.gov) do so starting January 1, 2013. For more information, please attend Financial Aid Night on January (TBA)
5. Please report any and all financial aid, scholarships and admission acceptance letters to your counselor as soon as possible. We will be hosting our Scholarship Night for all seniors in May. The Guidance Office will notify students who are invited to this event once they receive copies of acceptance letters.

### Graduation Requirements:

1. Senior Final Exam Schedule : Regular day schedule. Teachers have from May 13-15 to complete senior finals.
  - a. *Wednesday, May 13*
  - b. *Thursday, May 14*
  - c. *Friday, May 15*
2. Counselors will notify seniors failing to complete graduation requirements by 4:00 pm on Friday, May 15, 2015.
3. Graduation practice will be held at 8:00 am on Monday, May 18. Students will report to the gym and the practice will go until 10:30 am. A second practice is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19. Practice will start promptly at 10:00 am in the Gym and run until

12:00 pm. You must be present at both practices to participate in the formal graduation ceremony. There will be a senior breakfast or lunch specifics/time TBA.

#### Graduation Ceremony:

1. Graduation is on Wednesday, May 20 at 1:00 pm at the University of Phoenix Stadium.
2. Graduates are to report U of P Stadium no later than 11:30 am on Wednesday, May 20. No purses, backpacks, camera bags, food/drink, or any other articles will be allowed in the stadium. Graduates are to dress appropriately for graduation and are to bring their cap and gown with them. After Graduates arrive, Staff will assist students with the proper cap/gown placement.
3. Parents and guests can start arriving at U of P gym 45 minutes prior to the ceremony.
4. The order of processional is as follows:
  - a. Administration
  - b. Department Chairperson
  - c. Senior Class officers
  - d. Student body officers who are seniors.
  - e. Class members.

#### Cap and Gown/Graduation Expectations and Guidelines:

1. You must purchase your cap, gown, and tassel from Belfour. A Belfour representative will be coming to the school in the near future to take orders for the caps and gowns.
2. Participation in the graduation ceremony is not mandatory. However, in order to be excused, you must make arrangements in advance with Mr. Madrid. If you choose not to participate, diplomas may be picked up in the Guidance office on May 22<sup>th</sup> from 7am – 11am.
3. Students still owing fees at this time will not be allowed to practice for or participate in the graduation ceremony.
4. Remember that graduation is a serious occasion and no disruptive behavior (any behavior which distracts from the ceremony) will be tolerated.

#### Appropriate Dress:

1. All clothing should complement the academic regalia. Any clothing that draws attention to the individual and/or away from the assembled class is not acceptable.
2. Girls may wear dresses that do not show below the lower hem of the gown or dress pants and dress shoes.
3. Boys must wear dress slacks, dress shirt with a collar, and dress shoes or boots.
4. Students arriving for graduation in casual attire (jeans, t-shirt, sandals, flip flops, tennis shoes, etc.). Will not be permitted to participate.

**COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

I (print) \_\_\_\_\_ a member of the Sierra Linda High School Senior Class of 2013, concur that the Commencement Ceremony schedule for May 22, 2013 should reflect the standards of the community of Tolleson and Sierra Linda High School. I acknowledge that the community and the Tolleson Union High School District #214 expect this Commencement Ceremony to be dignified. I am aware that my participation in the Commencement Ceremony is voluntary and that my being graduated by Sierra Linda High School does not depend upon participation in the Commencement Ceremony.

If I choose to participate in the Commencement Ceremony, I will follow the Commencement dress code; obey all school rules, Governing Board policies, and Arizona state law with which I have the opportunity to make myself familiar. Copies of these regulations are available upon request in the Principal's Office. I agree and pledge that my personal conduct/dress will be appropriate, above reproach, and will benefit both the Ceremony and the expectations of the community. Further, I pledge that I will neither support nor tolerate inappropriate behavior.

Inappropriate behavior is that which calls undue attention to one student (or students) while detracting attention from another.

A violation of any rules set forth in the graduation information packet may result in serious consequences. Exemplary behavior between NOW and GRADUATION is necessary. Please be aware that discipline issues may prevent you from walking in the Commencement Ceremony.

By signing this agreement I and my parents are acknowledging that we have read, understand and agree to abide by the conditions set for in this packet. Please return the signed agreement to Sierra Linda High School Guidance Office by March 13, 2015.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_