From the Desk of the Senior Class Administrator, LeAnne Kannapell

Dear Senior Class of 2015, Happy Spring – Graduation is right around the corner. I appreciate all the hard work you have put forth so far and encourage you to do your very best up until the day you graduate. I also want to tell many of you how proud we are that you have stepped up to the plate with regards to working with your advisories on the Senior Capstone project. I continue to look forward to seeing you achieve your potential this year and to making sure your senior year is the best one yet.

Planning for graduation I am asking you to set some simple goals for yourself as we approach graduation: First, go to every class on time and be prepared. Secondly, take to heart your student rights and responsibilities. Now is the time to make a commitment to yourself and your parents that you will, in no way, jeopardize your standing at Oakton High School by poor decision making. Finally, be active and engaged in your high school experience. Stay involved in clubs, support your teams by cheering for your classmates in a positive and appropriate manner, attend school events such as prom, and go to school plays and concerts. There are activities for everyone at Oakton and we all want you to participate.

Stop by the Gold Office and say hello, or come up to me in the hall and introduce yourself.

Graduation Caps and Gowns Caps and Gowns are in the process of being ordered. Please turn in your order form to Mrs. Burke in the Gold Office. If you have any questions, please stop by the Gold Office for assistance. You will get your gown at graduation rehearsal.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreter for Graduation
If you will need an ASL interpreter for graduation, please notify Mrs. Pam Burke at 703-319-2782.

Class of 2015 Web Page
The Class of 2015 page of the Oakton High School website was created to be a resource site for seniors and their parents. Be sure to check this site for important information, dates, forms, etc. that are of special interest to seniors. To access the Senior Page, students and parents should go to http://www.fcps.edu/OaktonHS/classof2015.html

Baccalaureate
This year's Baccalaureate will be Sunday, June 14 at St. John Neumann in Reston. This is an ecumenical event, sponsored by the PTSA, with inspirational speakers as well as student speakers, and a great way to start the graduation week. Look at the weekly KITs for more info as the date approaches.

Graduation Information:

Dress
Women should wear dresses or skirts and dress shoes (no sandals). Boys must wear dress slacks (no jeans or shorts), dress shirt, tie and dress shoes with dark socks (no sneakers or sandals or shirts without collars). Do not bring your wallet into the Patriot Center. No sunglasses, sandals, athletic footwear or sneakers are to be worn. NO ONE is to wear jeans. Do not decorate or put signs on your caps or gowns. Use common sense and defer the party attire and party attitude for the All Night Graduation Party.

DO NOT BRING PURSES, CELL PHONES, CAMERAS, OR ANY VALUABLE ITEMS WITH YOU. Secured storage will not be provided. You may keep one key on your person during the graduation ceremony.

Behavior
Appropriate behavior is expected by all participants and guests before, during, and after the ceremony. Inappropriate
behavior or possession of any inappropriate items by participants or guests may result in the individual(s) being removed from the ceremony and the Patriot Center.

Security
Members of the Patriot Center security staff will be stationed throughout the Patriot Center. An orange security tag will be used for identification. Graduation assistants will be stationed at the portals to provide general assistance when needed. They, too, will be wearing tags.

Tickets
You will not need a ticket to enter the Patriot Center.

Seating
It is suggested that your family and guests arrive together to make your seating selection. Arriving early is also recommended. The doors will open for parents at 1:00 p.m. All seating is general admission except for seats reserved for the All Night Graduation Fundraiser.

Special Needs Accessibility
Parking for guests with disabilities is located at the South and West entrances. Van accessible parking spaces are located adjacent to the South entrance. These spaces are well-marked with the universal handicapped symbol and are monitored by our staff. Please remember that all vehicles must display state-issued accessible parking tags or placards to park in these spaces. Curb cuts are adjacent to the accessible parking areas. Additionally, the West entrance has a drop-off location close to the entrance doors.

All public entrances are at the street/concourse level. Guests with disabilities will find that there are no steps or ramps to maneuver in order to enter the arena. All entrance doors are monitored by our staff.

An elevator is normally available for use in assisting guests with disabilities to access the arena floor. Elevator availability can be limited, however, depending upon the type and nature of a given event.

Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals should seat themselves in the reserved seating area to the right of the stage when facing the podium. Please contact Mrs. Burke in the Gold Office if you will need sign language interpreters. Interpreters will not be available unless Oakton provides the county names of guests who need interpreters.

Wheelchair areas are available with one folding chair for one member of each family who wishes to sit in this area. (Since there is limited space for wheelchairs, please sit either in front of the wheelchair or behind it.) The Patriot Center has a wheelchair that can be used to assist patrons to and from one location to another, but must be returned after each use rather than kept for the duration of the event, so that it is available for the use of others.

Handicapped seating is available in rows F and G. These rows are on the concourse level and do not require the handicapped person to climb any stairs.

Camera Policy
Use of hand-held cameras and video cameras is allowed. However, attendees may only film from their seats. Standing in aisles or portals is prohibited. Use of electrical cords or tripods with video cameras is also prohibited.

Balloons and Noise Makers
The Patriot Center does not allow helium balloons or air horns.

Flowers for Your Graduate
The Patriot Center will have a vendor selling flowers to attendees.

Video of Graduation
The graduation ceremony will be videotaped and may be purchased directly from Memories – A Professional Videography Company. Information for ordering will be in the program.

Candid and Graduation Portraits
Photographs will be taken of each graduate by Victor O’Neill Studios. Information for ordering will be in the program.
Senior Dues
Senior dues are $70. If you did not pay your $30 junior dues last year, your total is $100. Dues must be paid prior to purchasing prom tickets and/or receiving a graduation gown. Dues helps pay for the following:

- Patriot Center rental
- School buses used to transport students in Performing Arts to the Patriot Center
- Senior Picnic
- Food at senior class meetings
- Cap & gown (you keep them)
- Diplomas and cover
- Senior class gift to the school
- Senior T-shirt
- Graduation programs

You may pay your senior dues by check made out to OHS Class of 2015. Checks may be sent by mail to: OHS, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181 Attn: Senior Dues or dropped off at the Gold Office.

Club 15

Mark your calendars and plan ahead! Your graduate is invited back to Oakton High School for the all-night grad celebration – Club 15 - sponsored by our PTSA. Registration information is available at www.Oaktonhsptsa.org. Scholarships are available if needed. The goal is to have as many students as possible attend this fun, safe celebration of their graduation. The fun begins at 10:00 p.m. so consider this as you celebrate with your families. Many volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Please consider volunteering to work a shift when asked.

Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs: Regulation 2601.26P
Oakton High School adheres firmly to mandatory consequences for the use and/or possession of alcohol and other drugs. Students possessing, using, or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs or in possession of drug-related paraphernalia at the prom or any other school-related activity will be subject to suspension and possible expulsion, according to Fairfax County Public School’s policy. Such an offense could prohibit the students’ participation in the graduation ceremony.

Senior Calendar

April
23 Grad Reflection Speaker Audition
28 Senior Survey

May
1 Prom
5 Graduation Info Night 7 pm – Lecture Hall
4 - 15 AP Exams
26 Senior Academic Awards

June
10-13 Senior Exams
14 Baccalaureate – St. John Neumann
16 Graduation Rehearsal
Senior Picnic
22 Graduation – 2:00 - Patriot Center, George Mason University
All Night Graduation Party