

SELECTION OF SPEAKERS - ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

To: All Seniors and Parents

We would like to inform all seniors and parents of the process used to identify speakers at graduation and to recognize academic achievement.

Speakers

Class Orators will be selected. Primary criteria for selection include good academic standing, the ability to deliver a good speech and recognition as one who is representative of the class. The selection process is as follows:

- a. A pool of candidates will be identified. Candidates will include all students with a GPA of 4.1 or better, plus students who are nominated by teachers.
- b. A selection committee will be set up by the principal. This committee will include the assistant principals, senior class advisor and one senior teacher.
- c. Qualifying students will be offered the opportunity to meet with the selection committee or to decline to participate in the selection process.
- d. Students wishing to be considered will have two responsibilities when they meet with the committee. First, they will come prepared with a one-page outline of a proposed topic for a speech. Second, they will be prepared to explain why they feel that they would be a good representative of their class.
- e. Based upon the interviews, the committee will select one student speaker to recommend to the principal. Note: the terms valedictorian and salutatorian will not be used.
- f. The principal will review the process and the recommendations for approval.
- g. Final copies of the speech will be reviewed by administration.
- h. The student speaker will be expected to practice the speech after rehearsal.

Academic Recognition

We will acknowledge students with a 4.1 or better GPA as graduating "with honors." Details of this recognition follow:

- a. All students with a seventh semester GPA of 4.1 or better will be designated as graduating with honors and this will be noted in the graduation program. All students will have an honor cord for their gown. Criteria for being recognized as graduating with honors will be noted in the graduation program, along with the fact that additional students may be added after the final GPA is calculated. Diplomas will have an honors designation.
- b. In July, students will receive a letter of recognition from the principal.
- c. The list of students for steps b. and c. will be amended to include any students not on the original list but who earned the minimum GPA as of fourth marking period. However, no student on the original third marking period list will be removed from the July list if his or her grade point average falls below 4.1.

Students who have been awarded the Seal of Biliteracy will be recognized in the graduation program.

Handicapped Access

Students are reminded to alert the main office if a member of their family needs wheelchair access for graduation. Please do this by Friday, June 7.