



UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT JESUIT

HIGH SCHOOL AND ACADEMY

Office of the Principal

A.M.D.G.

March 3, 2017

Dear Parents and Seniors,

The purpose of this letter is two-fold: one, to remind you how important it is to stay the course during the final year of high school, with special emphasis on the **second semester**; and two, to give you some information about the events ahead as we prepare for the commencement celebrations.

#1

Each year at this time senior students face an especially dangerous temptation: to spend less time and energy devoted to their studies. Those who give in to this temptation are said to suffer from a malady commonly referred to as “senioritis.”

This malady is dangerous for several reasons. First, **contrary to popular belief, colleges do look at eighth semester grades.** In this packet of information, you will find excerpts from some of the letters that have been collected by various high school principals over the years. Offers of admission can be revoked and are in fact regularly revoked due to a detrimental change in performance. The same holds true for offers of financial assistance based on merit. A few years ago, U of D Jesuit received a letter from the University of Michigan stating that they were reconsidering the acceptance of a few of our seniors because of poor performance in their senior year.

The second reason that this malady is dangerous is more serious. Any senior who fails **any** class, (required or not), loses the privilege of participating in the commencement ceremony. In order to receive his diploma, a senior who fails a class must take that class in summer school and receive a passing grade, and then a diploma is awarded. The Jesuit belief is that what we do in life we do for the “Greater Glory of God.” Not to continue to work hard in one’s studies is an affront to the Almighty who has bestowed on us the gift of intellect. Furthermore, it sets forth what could be a terrible attitude toward work that could persist for the rest of one’s life.

Students, I encourage you to work hard. Parents, I support you in your encouragement of your sons to devote themselves to their present vocation: study.

#2

On behalf of the faculty, staff and administration of U of D Jesuit, I want to extend to you and your family a cordial invitation to join us for all senior events, especially the annual Baccalaureate Mass and the 140th annual Commencement Ceremony.

The **Senior Honors Night** is on Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. All seniors are invited to attend with their families. Various scholarships earned by seniors are printed in the Honors booklet. **It is up to seniors and their parents to forward all scholarship information to Mrs. Rinke in the College Counseling Office no later than April 14th.** If the scholarship information is not reported to us on or before **April 14th**, it will not appear in the program.

The **Baccalaureate Mass** is on Sunday, May 7th, at 4:00 p.m. at Ss. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church (downtown Detroit, 438 St. Antoine, Detroit, MI 48226). The senior class prepares the readings, prayers, and music for the Mass. Following the Mass, the Mothers' Club will host a reception in the Atrium at Ss. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church. We hope all families will join us.

The **Commencement Ceremony** is on Wednesday, May 17th at 7:30 p.m. at Greater Grace Temple on Seven Mile Road near Telegraph. We will include directions with the commencement tickets. The Senior All Night Party begins at 10:00 p.m. following the commencement ceremony.

Commencement Ceremony tickets are distributed through the Principal's Office. **Anyone who attends must have a ticket.** Each senior is guaranteed to receive ten tickets. Extra tickets may be requested, but are not guaranteed. *To order commencement tickets, please fill out the form and return it to Mrs. Maurice in the Principal's Office no later than Wednesday, April 12th.*

SENIORS WILL ONLY RECEIVE THEIR COMMENCEMENT TICKETS AFTER SENIOR EXAMS, AND WHEN ALL FINANCIAL, LIBRARY, LOCKER, PLEDGE DETROIT! AND JUG OBLIGATIONS ARE FULFILLED.

All seniors and their families are encouraged to participate in the Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement Ceremony. Students who do not want to or are unable to participate in the Commencement Ceremony are excused, but please let the school know ahead of time.

Unfortunately in the recent past, there have been instances of parents serving alcoholic beverages to their sons and their son's friends as a way to celebrate prom and commencement. The school strongly urges parents to refrain from this activity. It is illegal to serve alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. It is very unhealthy and may be the source of great harm to your son and his friends. Another practice that is often seen at this time of year is a parent or older sibling arranging for a hotel room for their son and his friends after prom. Please do not allow these activities to be a part of your son's experience.

The seniors are reminded about the kind of behavior that is expected from them for the remainder of the school year. They also know the consequences for inappropriate actions. The school is confident that our seniors will handle their last days of high school with grace. They are a great class and we look forward to celebrating their success on May 17, 2016.

NOTE: All information referenced in this letter can be found online at: www.uofdjesuit.org - > Quick Links> Class of 2017 Information.

Sincerely,

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Anthony R. Trudel
Principal