

THE FALL

DESTINATION PAGES
THE CLASS OF 2025 IS HEADING ALL
OVER THE WORLD IN THE FALL TO
STUDY AND WORK
PAGE 14-17

GUIDE TO COLLEGE LIVING
GRAB ALL YOUR ESSENTIALS
BEFORE HEADING TO THAT
NEW DORM THIS FALL
PAGE 19



NEWS IN BRIEF

With graduation rapidly approaching, the curtain has closed on most seniors' final high school performances. Regardless of whether or not they will be studying theatre in college, it will not lose its huge importance for them. "I really love the friends that you make," senior Tess Donegan said. "Each show brings different aspects of the community and all of them mean so much to me." Photo by Katarina Day



Left: For most high school athletes, their competitive career ends to go to college. But for a select few, it's only the beginning. The opportunity to continue playing the sport you love in college is a dream for many and some get lucky to be able to do that. "It has always been a dream of mine since I was five years old to play at the next level. It'll be fun to meet a lot of new people and build more relationships," senior Adam Clark said. Photo by Kaylee Gerber



Right: This year we say goodbye to Ms. Brannon-Reese. Her position as an English teacher is being eliminated because of a population decrease here, but she will be teaching at another school in AACPS. "I've enjoyed being here. I think it's a great school, and yeah, I've had a great experience," Brannon-Reese said. Photo by Legacy



Seniors Alethia Brown and Ruby Howland, both editors of the Talon and Embers yearbook, have spent hours of their time in the publication lab over their years at Severna Park. This June marks a new beginning in Florida for Howland and Tennessee for Brown. Photo taken by Katarina Day. Graphic by Ruby Howland

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The Last Hoorah

End senior year with a bang.

Nicol Chovanec | Staff Writer

Want a nice and relaxing end to your last day of school? Attend the third annual senior picnic organized by Nadine Hendler. Make your last day memorable by spending time with your close friends while eating good food and playing fun games.

Two years ago, Hendler wanted to bring something new to Severna Park High School. She decided to target senior classes and start a new tradition that will allow future senior classes to celebrate their last day of high school.

"It is their last event in high school, it is their last time together. I think it is something that they will remember," Hendler said.

Hendler enjoys the time spent organizing senior activities, starting the year with senior sunrise and ending with

the senior picnic. This year's senior picnic is still in the works, but the scheduling for when the picnic will happen is set.

"Their last day is the 23rd of May, so right after graduation practice from 8:20 a.m. to around the end of second period, and then they are excused from their classes, they are done with high school. They are going to go out to the stadium, and it will be our third year of our graduation celebration picnic with food, games and time to sign yearbooks," Hendler said.

Each year, the senior picnic has changed due to weather or different interests in each senior class, and that is what makes this picnic exciting to look forward to.

"The first year we did it was at the baseball fields and bocce court. Last year, it rained, so we set up tents at the stadium, but the weather broke, so we hung out," Hendler said.

Some traditions have been held throughout the years since this picnic was created. There will continue to be parents that bring in a variety of foods that students can enjoy, there will always be fun games and activities that are planned to entertain students and lastly one of the most iconic traditions has to be Mr. Rob's snowball truck visiting.

"They get to look into the snowball truck and see their signatures," Hendler said. She believes the snowball truck to be a very popular tradition for seniors. They get to take a step back into their childhood, hearing that snowball truck music one more time on a very special day.

And finally, since not all of the details about the picnic are set in stone, as a senior, you have the power to suggest any specific activities you want to add to make your last day that much more special. Hendler specifically talks to class officers when making any final decisions.

So, if this picnic sounds appealing to you, come and have some fun on your last day of school. Whether you are there for the food, games, friends or Mr. Rob, you are going to have a good time.

Canva created illustrations of details about the senior picnic. At the senior picnic, there will be food, games and fun. "It is really just a time for everybody to hang out together," Nadine Hendler said. Graphic by Nicol Chovanec



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Time Gone By

Photo from NASA



Pluto is demoted to the classification of a dwarf planet

Nintendo releases the 'Wii' console
Blogging platform 'Twitter' is launched

The Global Financial Crisis occurred, a severe economic downturn not seen since the 1929 crash.

Barack Obama becomes the first Black president of the United States out of 44 in total.

"Mamma Mia" and "Batman: The Dark Knight" released on the same day, dominating the box office

Photo from Instagram



Social media platform 'Instagram' is released

The Arab Spring spreads across the globe

Both the song and dance "Gangnam Style" by Psy become massively popular

The Earth narrowly missed what could have been a catastrophic solar storm launched by the sun.

The Sandy Hook mass shooting takes place, becoming one of the deadliest school shootings in America

Photo from Wikipedia



Scott Cawthon releases the horror game "Five Nights at Freddy's" first in the series of currently 11 games

Malaysian Airlines flight 370 disappears after deviating from its original path (Kuala Lumpur to Beijing)

2006

2008

2010

2012

2014

2007

2009

2011

2013

2015

DreamWorks releases "Bee Movie" later to become a pop culture icon

The band 'LMFAO' releases the hit song "Party Rock Anthem" only to then follow with the song "Sorry for Party Rocking"

The video game "Minecraft" is released by Mojang Studios
The social media app 'Snapchat' is launched

Jorge Mario Bergoglio is announced as pope, becoming Pope Francis.

Star Wars returned after over a decade with the box office hit: "The Force Awakens"

Steve Jobs of Apple Inc. unveils the first iPhone, starting a revolution in technology

'King of Pop' Micheal Jackson is found dead in his home in Los Angeles, California

Osama bin Laden is assassinated by the US Navy Seals in Abbottabad, Pakistan

Disney releases the movie "Frozen"
Sony releases the Playstation 4

A series of coordinated terrorist attacks occurred in Paris, France leaving 130 dead and hundreds wounded

The Boston Marathon is the site of a domestic terrorist attack resulting in three casualties and 117 injured

The swine flu pandemic sweeps the globe, infecting 700 million to 1.4 billion people globally



Photo from Navy Seals



Photo from Kimberly White, Reuters



Photo from Christian Hartmann, Reuters

The 2025 Senior Timeline

Harambe, the beloved gorilla, dies, causing massive outcry.

Photo from Blue House



In Australia up to 19 million hectares burnt in a bushfire that painted skies across the country bright orange for weeks.

Photo from Getty



Students were let out early April 8 to see the total solar eclipse.

Donald Trump is elected as the 45th US President

President Kim Jong Un (North Korea) and President Moon Jae-In (South Korea) make amends to officially end the Korean War after almost 70 years.

The killing of George Floyd and other incidents of police brutality incite protest across the country for Black Lives Matter.

Queen Elizabeth II dies at 96, holding the title of the longest-reigning female monarch in the world and the longest-reigning monarch in Britain.

United Healthcare CEO Brian Thompson is assassinated by Luigi Mangione with the motive targeting corporate greed.

Germany beats Argentina the 2014 Fifa World Cup held in Brazil

Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex marries American former actress Meghan Markle with a tumultuous royal wedding.

The virus Covid-19 begins a pandemic mandating a strict global quarantine.

Russia invades Ukraine, escalating the ongoing crisis from 2014, and entering into the deadliest war in Europe since World War Two.

Some seniors vote in their first Presidential election between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump.

2016

2018

2020

2022

2024

2017

2019

2021

2023

2025

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose and Maria cause at least \$265 billion dollars in damages to the Southern and Eastern coasts.

Marvel Studios' "Avengers: Endgame" breaks the box-office record for highest grossing film with \$1.2 billion in its opening weekend.

The class of 2025 graduates from middle school

"Barbie" and "Oppenheimer" have a double release on July 21, with the phenomenon known as 'Barbenheimer'.

Seniors graduate on June 3.

Club Penguin shut down after a 12 year run as a part of the Adobe flash dismantling.

The first all woman spacewalk was achieved by astronauts Christina Koch and Jessica Meir outside the International Space Station.

Kamala Harris becomes the first African American and female Vice President.

Hamas, a Palestinian Sunni Islamist group led an attack on the Gaza Strip in Israel targeting military bases and civilian areas.

Pope Francis dies and is replaced by Chicago native Pope Leo XIV, the first ever American pope.

The #MeToo movement was created following the many sexual assault allegations against Harvey Weinstein.



Photo from NASA

Following U.S. withdrawal, the Taliban returned to power in Afghanistan after more than 20 years with an interim government.



Photo from Getty

The most destructive wildfires in Los Angeles history force at least 180,000 to evacuate.

Top Five SPHS College Applications

What are the top five most popular colleges that SPHS seniors are applying to?

Artin Tarpinian | Staff Writer

One of the biggest parts of senior year is applying to colleges. It can determine the next four years of a senior's life and is a very exciting time for them and their families. What many people are wondering when they apply is, "What colleges are my friends all going to?" With the help of this article, hopefully those questions will be answered and offer some sort of relief knowing that students from SPHS may go to the same college together.

So what is the most popular college for SPHS seniors this year? Well, according to Mrs. Jackson, the college and career center counselor at SPHS, the college that received the most applications from SPHS was the University of Maryland-College Park, with 194 applications this year. This makes sense as many students that apply to college want to apply to state



schools. It costs less money to go and students can be closer to home. The University of Maryland is also a very good school that students even from outside of the state go to because of its amazing sports and academic programs.

This trend continues with the second most popular college being Towson University with 116 applications. Towson is similar to the University of Maryland, as a school inside the state of Maryland with many good programs that include business administration, computer science and nursing, which people who live in Severna Park are known for specializing in. Towson is also an easier college to be accepted to, with an 82% acceptance rate compared to the University of Maryland's 45% acceptance rate.

After Towson, there is a shift, as 97 students elected to apply to Penn State. Being in Pennsylvania, Penn State is obviously a farther school than those in Maryland. However, the school has an amazing campus with plenty of helpful resources for students. Penn State's main

major is engineering, so it is a good school if that major sounds appealing. But, with a 55.2% acceptance rate, Penn State may prove to be a bit difficult for some students to get into.

The fourth most popular college goes to Salisbury University with 96 applicants, one less than Penn State. Salisbury is known for being the "Coastal College Town." The campus is located around 30 miles from the beach, making it a convenient location for summer break and hanging out with friends. Some majors include

business, management, marketing and other support services, making this an ideal college for anybody wanting to work in any sort of business related jobs. And with a 91.1% acceptance rate, many students are able to be accepted without stress or worry.

And finally, the fifth most popular college for SPHS students is the University of Delaware, with 81 applications. This university is an amazing choice for students as Delaware is not too far from Maryland. This can make traveling back and forth much easier for vacations and holiday breaks. The University of Delaware boasts a 64% acceptance rate, with many different majors, including their most popular, finance, which makes up approximately 6.5% of graduates. They also feature many extensive graduate programs for those seeking a higher education.

Overall, there is a large



number of seniors this year applying to in state schools or relatively close ones. This makes sense, as many state schools offer scholarships and other benefits to students from the same area.

Left middle: The Maryland Terrapins logo was created in 1982, because of the large number of terrapins that live in Maryland. Photo from 1000 logos.

Right top: Towson University has gone through many logo changes until landing on this logo in 2011. The Towson logo depicts the Towson Tiger, the mascot of the university, named Doc. Photo from Wikipedia.

<h2>YEAR BOOK DISTRIBUTION</h2>		MAY 19/20 INTERESTED seniors will receive yearbook signing pages through their English teachers.	AUG 04 Senior distribution (class of 2025) will be from 10-12 PM outside CAFE. Bring an ID for pick up.
		MAY 21/22 In English classes, underclassmen who purchased a yearbook will be offered signing pages for their yearbook. Only those who pre-purchased.	AUG 04 Extra yearbooks will be sold to seniors only from 10-12 PM. Cash only.
YEARBOOK WILL INCLUDE ALL SPRING EVENTS, SPORTS, PROM AND GRADUATION		follow us @sphsembers 	SEPT 2-4 All underclassmen can pick up their books during lunches. Bring an ID. If there are extra books, they will be sold during this week.

Senior Summer

Plans for summer before college.

Emerson Scott | Sports Editor



With the 2024-2025 school year quickly approaching the end, seniors are stirring in their chairs, twiddling their thumbs and counting each tick on the clock until the final bell rings and they have successfully made it through a great four years of high school. While reminiscing on all of the fun times can be a worthwhile mental refresh, the thing at the top of most seniors' minds is plans for the final hometown hoorah, senior summer.

A popular option to spark the summer after senior year is senior week. For senior week, the seniors pack their bags with themed outfits, swimsuits and beachwear and head down to Ocean City, MD to hang out with friends and have a great time at the beach. "I'm super excited for senior week to be with all of my friends," senior Drew Kessler said.

Another way to celebrate the last summer in Severna Park is graduation parties. While not all grad parties are in the summertime, they still make up a substantial amount of senior summer plans. For a grad party, seniors often invite

important people like family, friends, neighbors and teammates to celebrate their high school graduation and spend time together.

Exploring Severna Park and areas around it also make for popular activities for seniors to enjoy before they leave for college. They want to connect with home and soak up everything in Severna Park and the Annapolis area. It is a way for seniors to enjoy what has made life in Maryland enjoyable.

Another senior summer plan is to make some money before college to start on the right foot financially, as senior Hannah Pope is doing. "I plan on working during the summer as well as hanging out with friends," Pope said.

On the other hand, Severna Park High School is no stranger to athletic capabilities, and harbors many students that are going to continue their sport at a collegiate level. Due to this, the timeline of their senior summer can look different compared to others that are preparing to attend a school only as a student. Depend-

ing on the sport as well as the school's athletic program, students might have to go to their school early and begin training with the team, possibly starting pre-season preparations.

The seniors that are continuing their athletics plans for summer really do vary from person to person. Examples of this are seniors Abby Cover and Charlie Hartman. Cover plans to attend UNC Greensboro to continue her soccer career, and Hartman plans to attend Salisbury to play college baseball.

"I'm planning on doing a lot of soccer and running, as well as doing my workout packet," Cover said. "I am also going to go to a personal trainer during the summer."

"I have a lot of baseball because I am playing in a collegiate baseball summer league that goes from June 1 to July 31," Hartman said. "I have a couple vacations and I'm going to enjoy senior week and just hang out with my friends for the last time before we go to college."

Finally, the honor and pride that should accompany attending a military academy also can come with a modified look at the summer after graduation. Senior and future student of the

United States Naval Academy Cooper Alahverdian said, "It does kind of shorten things, but I was prepared for that and I want to do this. I'm just thinking I'm going to spend time with my family before I go away, and hang out with friends, and go to senior week. From what I have heard it is a lot of working out, a bunch of leadership training. It is supposed to be the switch from a civilian to a soldier now."

In the end, the completion of four years at Severna Park High School comes with memories and bonds that can last a lifetime. Celebrating a final summer before independence is a fantastic way to appreciate the time in Maryland and let loose before a new and exciting chapter of life begins.

Top: A view of the Ocean City sunrise during spring break.

Photo by Emerson Scott

Bottom: Ocean City, Maryland can make for a fun trip for seniors looking to be with friends and classmates during the senior week festivities. Even if Ocean City isn't your favorite beach, the around two hour drive makes getting there easier and not such a hike for people in Severna Park. Graphic by OC



Cool Memories from Senior Year

Severna Park seniors share the coolest things they have done this school year.

Jessenia Limani | Staff Writer

Senior year tends to be so full of the negatives and stresses. Things like college applications, tuition, future uncertainty and even senioritis cast a dark shadow on the final year of high school. Yet it's important to look beyond these setbacks and clear the way for the things that make senior year amazing, shining a bright light on the excitements of the 12th grade.

"Some cool stuff that we get to do is senior assassin," senior Caden Tetrault said.

Senior assassin is a game played before graduation where highschool seniors use water guns to "assassinate" their target, all while competing for a grand prize gifted to the last player standing. This game is one of the many experiences that rising seniors look forward to and former seniors will look back upon.

"I've been able to be a part of a lot of different

groups and events," senior Alethia Brown said.

For Brown it's not specific activities, but a cluster of different pursuits that highlight her senior year. An amazing collection of opportunities and clubs is what really tends to highlight the last year of high school. This is especially true when peers are involved in those activities. As Brown said, "Being able to make friends that are interested in that sort of thing is cool."

Senior year clubs and opportunities can result in friendship with others that are also interested in those same clubs and opportunities. It's important to note that the challenges and complicated extracurriculars that one involves themselves in during senior isn't something that has to be faced alone.

When it comes to senior year memories, sometimes it's the classic events that are the

most enjoyable.

"My favorite memory was attending prom because it was a way to sum up senior year and hang out one last time as a social event with all my friends and classmates," senior Addison McLean said. For some seniors the coolest memories stem from tradition and anticipation.

McLean also cited clubs she was involved in as a source of excitement during her senior year. "I was in Key Club and they allowed fundraising like the Polar Bear Plunge," McLean said.

According to McLean, fundraising activities were a true highlight of her senior year, especially the ones like Polar Bear Plunge where money can be raised in unique and enjoyable ways that high-schoolers can have fun participating in.

Between senior assassins, events, friendships, prom and fundraisers, the current seniors have had a large arrange-

ment of cool memories and activities from this school year. Hopefully the current seniors can look back on this year with fond memories and make amazing experiences that continue for future highschoolers entering the 12th grade.

Severna Park students sit in the courtyard during lunch, a popular place to hangout with friends during the busy school year. Seniors now during their second semester have begun to reminisce on their time as a high school student and other memories in their hometown before their next chapter begins. PhotoBy Katarina Day



Senioritis and the suffering 2025 graduates.

Katarina Day | Photo Editor

As graduation looms for this year's seniors, many can be seen stumbling into the lobby with a late pass or simply not showing up to class at all. This is the effect of that superficial disease commonly known as "senioritis." Common symptoms include: lacking motivation, procrastination, tardiness, not changing out of pajamas, hibernating for the majority of the day, irritability, increased nostalgia, despondence and a regression into immature behavior.

From the start of senior year to the end, the affected sufferers grow from just 2-5% of the total class population to about 90%.

Currently there is not much developed research that reflects specific causes, types of seniors affected, average time with symptoms felt, range of severity or stages. One specific commonality shows that there is no possible cure that can instantly dissolve the affliction. Usually two to three months after graduation senioritis is snuffed out, after the patients are no longer seniors and shift their ambitions to focus on other pursuits such as college. With collected data on senioritis, and general estimation, as of April, the disease has become a national epidemic. Most seniors have developed the condition and are suffering greatly.

Many seniors come to social media to air their grievances with senioritis. One user known as Eden (account remaining anonymous) posted on TikTok, "I thought 'senioritis' was just a silly term that seniors used but I didn't realize that it actually makes you hate everything and not want to go to school ever again," accompanied by the song "Emotions" by Brenda Lee.

Many local students agreed that they didn't under-

stand how bad the virus was once until they caught it.

As for why the disease develops, the cause can be found in various developments in the afflicted student's life. Many state that with a lack of applied class difficulty connected to consequences if not completed, there is less of a reason for them to try in school anymore. Students who already have achieved acceptances to their colleges of choice specifically lack the most motivation because they do not feel the need to apply themselves when their ultimate goal has already been achieved.

Senioritis, despite its name, can be seen affecting students in the lower grades as well. Juniors with senior friend groups are especially feeling this effect. "Senioritis affects me a lot more mentally than academically, because I feel like I'm graduating with all my friends even though I'm not," says junior Syrenna McNutt.

McNutt also details the consequences of not connecting with people in her grade in favor of her older friends. "I've stayed away from my own grade for a really long time so now I'm a little worried for my actual senior year without a lot of important people in my life. I also forget the fact that I'm only 16 because all of my friends are 18."

Many students have found practices to help manage their suffering. Max Phillips claims to ease the effects by "...focusing on the future, doing [her] work and showing up to class no matter what."

Finding strategies that help maintain academic motivation lessens not only the negative consequences of giving in to senioritis, but the overall effects as well, as in the long term it will ultimately reduce anxiety. Reduced schedules



with most seniors only having one or two daily classes lightens the workload that most students experience. The decreased class registration has negative and positive effects. On one hand seniors can focus on work, internships, sports or other after school activities and dedicate more time to them, however, this accompanies a devastating lack of ambition to do the little work they have. Many feel like it's not worth it; that they have basically already graduated.

"Senioritis just started hitting. I don't feel the motivation to try," senior Brandon Chisholm. "I do my homework quickly and sloppy. It almost feels like a sort of depression to where my body feels heavy

and sluggish. Everything feels like a pain in the ass... Most of my classes are relevant to me in college so I am able to motivate myself mostly to get things done to do it well."

Despite the bleak reality many seniors face at this particular time, there is hope that many will recover soon, especially with the mass anticipation of senior week, which excites many students.

Students struggle over Brightspace assignments, studying for AP exams and finals with a lack of motivation. Senioritis is an unfortunate, yet common struggle faced by seniors across the nation, especially during their second semester. Junior Abby Chavez uses time at home to organize her work and stay on top of deadlines. Photo by: Abby Chavez

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The Pros and Cons of a Half Schedule

Many seniors take a half day, but should you?

Teddy Carns | Staff Writer

School can often feel like it gets in the way, due to taking up the majority of the day. But for seniors, there is an alternative. If you have a job or take AACC classes, you can get a half schedule. While many people choose to take this offer, should they? Taking a closer look, students gain and lose by choosing to take a half schedule.

Possibly the biggest benefit is that it gets you more prepared for life after high school. Taking AACC classes will of course prepare you for college classes. Cole Christesen is a senior taking AACC classes. "It's probably less work per class than my classes at the high school," Christesen said. "I'm really happy about the credits I'm getting, because I'm going to go into college with a bunch of credits already done."

Even if you take the route of getting a job, that prepares you as well, just in a different way. Most obviously, having a job prepares for having a job in the future, but if you need to have a job during college, having a job in high school prepares you for balancing those two. Similarly, having a job is likely to increase your level of independence, an important skill for college. Not only does Christesen have classes to fill his day after high school and at AACC but he also has a part-time job.

Some students take a half schedule, but actually end up spending most of the day at school anyway. Alethia Brown, a senior with a partial schedule said, "Since I'm an editor for the yearbook and the newspaper, I hang out in the pub lab and work on either newspaper layouts if I have those, or yearbook edits."

While not often considered, this can be an interesting option for students

in groups like newspaper or yearbook. Brown uses her extra time in the building to complete work and also has more classes than just the expected English and math graduation requirements, since she is also taking additional electives.

However, it's also worth noting the negative side effects. For one, by not taking a full schedule, you are missing out on some free education, something that will not be free in college. Seniors qualify through the county for ECAP – which provides up to two free AACC classes each semester. Students can take advantage of the partial schedule by jump-starting their college career. It just requires that students apply through the county portal.

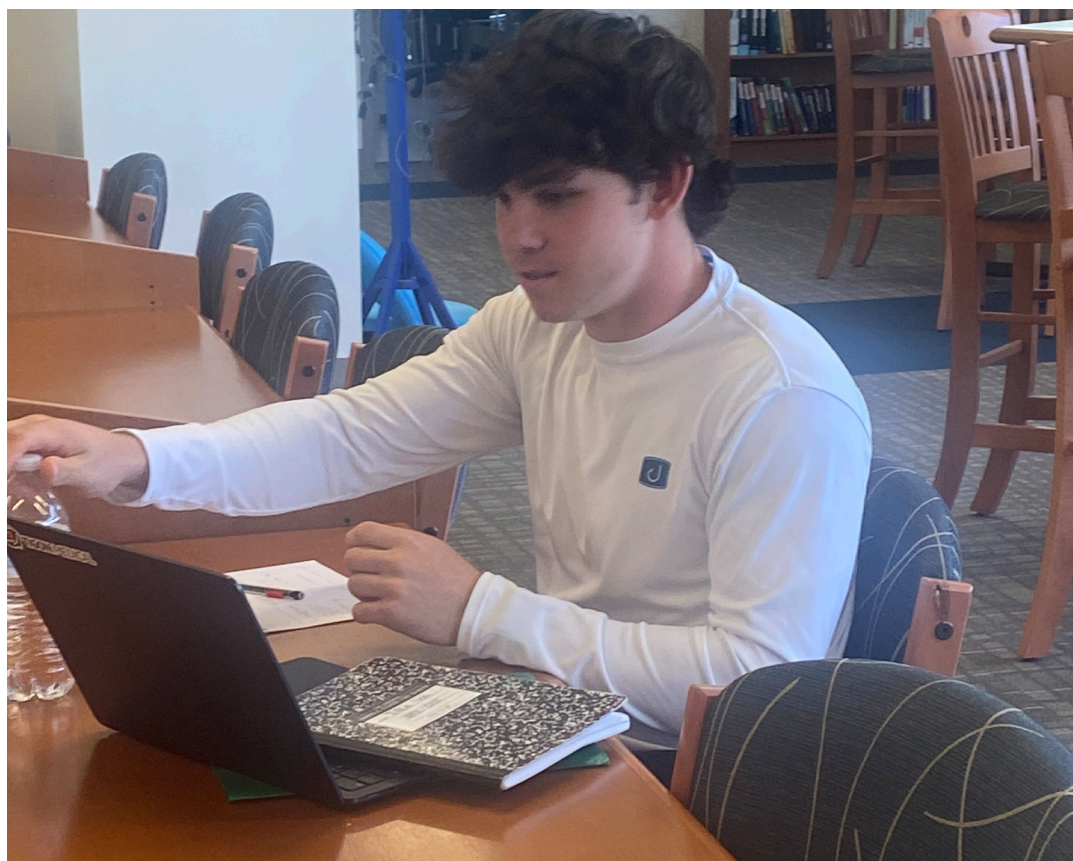
It also lessens your workload the year before college, assuming you don't take AACC classes, meaning that you may even be less prepared

for the extra work coming in college. It's also possible that a half schedule could appear negatively on your college resume, as they may see it as you cutting back on work, especially if you choose to take a job.

All in all, taking a partial schedule in your senior year can have various benefits, whatever you choose to do with it. AACC classes can prepare you for college, a job can prepare you for life after or during college and staying to complete other tasks at school can be helpful as well. However, is it worth giving up free high school classes for? That much is up to your own decision.

Senior Jack Fish has a partial schedule because of an internship. His internship is at TIGON medical, which creates medical devices for patients. "I'm able to make money after school and learn how a small business works," Fish said. Photo taken by Teddy Carns.

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AP Classes for College

How do AP classes and exams in high school help with college?

Solomon Nkongolo | Staff Writer

Lots of people take AP classes just because they look good on their transcript. But do you really know how AP classes affect your future?

AP classes help prepare you for the higher education of college. Since they are more difficult than standard or honors classes, they replicate the intensity of college work. Students can also learn the time management skills and study skills needed in college. All of this can help to prepare you for the harder workload that comes from studying in a university.

This increased difficulty also allows you to earn college credits. If you score a three or higher on the AP exam at the end of the year, you are eligible for college credits. This means that you won't have to take the extra class in college, or depending on your major and the college you attend, a high score can place you in a more advanced class, and you could potentially save thousands

of dollars in credit hours. One three credit course could cost you anywhere from \$1000-\$4000. AP exams, on the other hand, only cost \$99 dollars (or less, since at SPHS up to four exams per student are free). You also have the potential to graduate college early.

AP exams don't have to be taken alongside an AP class, however. If you don't have space for an AP class in your schedule but you still want the credits, you can study the AP subjects on your own time. There are plenty of resources for students that are thinking about taking the AP exam without taking the class, so this can always be an option. However, you would be responsible for teaching yourself the material.

AP classes and exams also enhance your transcript and your college application. Taking a lot of AP classes shows colleges that you are a good student who takes challenges, helping you stand out. Colleges

recognize that AP courses have more rigor than standard or honors classes and offer you credit to give you a head start. Colleges look for a progression of rigor, meaning that as you progress through high school, they expect your course load to become progressively more rigorous with more and more AP classes. The school also offers a weighted GPA for AP classes, and this can help you to boost your GPA.


Finally, AP classes help to prepare you for potential career paths. If you decide to take an AP course and you like it or find it interesting, you could decide if you want to go into a career involving that subject. This can help unsure students choose a major when deciding in college.

If you decide to take AP classes, make sure to not overdo it. AP classes have a large workload, and you don't want to be stuck doing too much work, especially if you're

busy with extracurriculars. As a sophomore, taking anywhere from one to three AP classes is good, as a junior maybe three to five and as a senior anywhere from the two to five range is sufficient.

Overall, AP classes and exams are a good resource for students looking to improve their high school transcript, and earn college credits.

Students log on to AP Classroom to see this familiar screen. Students find their AP courses in alphabetical order, and they can access resources to ensure success during their year. The AP classes a student takes in high school allows them to experience college level academics in a comfortable environment. Photo taken by Nicol Chovanec.




AP Biology

SP-3A-Stahl S2 with Teresa Stahl


[Go to AP Classroom](#)

[Course Guide →](#)
[Assignments →](#)

 **Exam Day** May 5, 8:00 AM

Registered for Exam
given by [Severna Park Senior High School](#)

[Go to Course & Exam pages →](#)




AP Physics 1

SP-2A-Cosh S2 with Jeanine Cosh

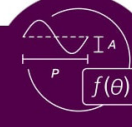
[Go to AP Classroom](#)

[Course Guide →](#)
[Assignments →](#)

 **Exam Day** May 16, 8:00 AM

Registered for Exam
given by [Severna Park Senior High School](#)

[Go to Course & Exam pages →](#)




AP Precalculus

SP-1A-Lowman S2 with Julie Lowman

[Go to AP Classroom](#)

[Course Guide →](#)
[Assignments →](#)

 **Exam Day** May 13, 8:00 AM

Registered for Exam
given by [Severna Park Senior High School](#)

[Go to Course & Exam pages →](#)



BUY YOUR YEARBOOK

Senior Assassin

Drenched in school work and by a water gun, seniors compete for a cash prize by shooting their closest friends with water.

Rosie Melnychenko | Staff Writer

As the final year of high school winds down, excitement is in the air, and the anticipation of graduation is palpable. But for the seniors, there's one more tradition that adds a thrilling twist to their last days: Senior Assassin. This game, a rite of passage for many, transforms the school into a strategic battleground where alliances are formed, friendships are tested and stealth reigns supreme. With water guns in hand and adrenaline pumping, seniors embark on a quest to be the last one standing, creating unforgettable memories along the way.

There is also an Instagram page where you will be able to find all the rules to this game but also get to see who gets out and who wins. There

will be tons of videos on this page, so follow @sphs.assassins.2025. So far in the senior assassin there have been about 116 eliminations reported. As the game progresses, the intensity ramps up. Students are seen hiding behind bushes, and devising elaborate plans to stay in the game. Social media is abuzz with updates and rumors, as players track each other's movements and share their victories and close calls. Teachers and parents watch with a mix of amusement and concern as the game takes over the daily lives of the seniors.

Despite the competitive nature, there's a strong sense of camaraderie and school spirit as everyone rallies around the shared experience. The senior assassin game has become

the talk of Severna Park, turning ordinary days into a thrilling adventure for the class of 2025.

As the final showdown approaches, the excitement in Severna Park is palpable. Students are strategizing, alliances are forming and the tension is at an all time high. Senior Assassin has not only tested their stealth and cunning but also brought the class closer together in a unique and unforgettable way. With only a few contenders left the question remains: who will outwit, outlast and outplay to claim the ultimate victory? Stay tuned as we follow the thrilling conclusion of this year's Senior Assassin.



Top middle: Abbie Heath and Kate Livingston participating in senior assassin in a parking lot with goggles and a plastic water gun. Goggles are the safety item to protect students in the game. Photo from Kate Livingston

Middle: Rylie Cleary in a parking lot as a part of senior assassin. Photo from Rylie Cleary

Prom 2025

The school year is coming to an end and the seniors are finishing their high school career with a bang by attending prom.

Addison McLean | Staff Writer

Prom took place on Saturday, May 3 at the Marriott Hotel from 7:00-11:00 pm. The theme of the dance was "To the Moon and Back" and all attendees arrived in dazzling attire. Attendees were served a dinner of assorted beverages, salads, sliders, pasta, dessert and more. Following the dance students were also able to attend the Prom Breakfast, which was sponsored by parents of the class of 2025. The Prom Breakfast was held in the high school cafeteria from 11:30 pm-2:00 am. The breakfast allowed seniors the opportunity to share memories, conversations and food with their peers even after the dance had

concluded.

"I'm really excited for prom because I get to spend the day with my friends getting ready, which is really fun, and obviously the dance is going to be super fun because it's kinda a senior highlight that everyone looks forward to throughout their high school years," prom attendee Abby Wolfe said.

As the school year is coming to an end seniors are able to enjoy school festivities such as prom with a new enthusiasm. When prom was first introduced it served as a formal event to teach young men and women proper etiquette and manners, however it evolved into a fun, high speed, social

event for high-schoolers to socialize and enjoy. With graduation around the corner, the class of 2025 is making the most of their final moments.

"I'm excited to dress up and so excited to take lots of pictures. I'm gonna bring my camera with me to save all the memories," senior Maya Ibrahim said.

Because of the efforts of the prom committee and volunteers, the class of 2025 was able to enjoy a beautiful venue with lovely decorations. The theme "To the Moon and Back" was visualized excellently at the dance, creating a beautiful backdrop for all the photos and memories captured. The theme

acted as a framework for decorations, attire and atmosphere, helping to set the vibe of the dance and enhance the excitement of the night.

Senior Zach Seebold said, "I could go either way with the prom theme but I think this year's prom theme is cute and I'm a big fan."

Prom attendee, Ryan Bonner also agreed, saying, "I like the prom theme cause it's original and different."

With prom being a pivotal and traditional event of the high school experience, it was important that this year's theme was authentic and one everyone could enjoy. Prom acts as a fun social event that marks

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Sheck

Seniors Compare their Childhood Dreams

Seniors reminisce on childhood dreams.

Cass Ames | Staff Writer

As the Class of 2025 prepares to toss their caps and step into adulthood, many seniors at SPHS have been reflecting on the dreams they once held as wide-eyed kids. From astronauts to zookeepers, ballerinas to superheroes, the ambitions of childhood often painted a world full of wonder and infinite possibility.

"I wanted to be a veterinarian because I really loved animals," says senior Kelsey Sparkman. Today, Kelsey plans to pursue a degree in business.

For some, their dreams have shifted with time and experience. Senior Brandon Chisholm used to imagine himself as a "famous singer" he recalls. "Now I'm going into actuarial science to be an actuary." Looking back, many seniors recognize that childhood dreams, while sometimes whimsical, were an early expression of who they are. "I wanted to be an interior designer" says senior Brooke Testerman, now Brooke plans to major in nursing. For many seniors, these childhood dreams

are more than just funny memories—they're emotional markers of who they were, and who they hoped to become. As graduation approaches, the Class of 2025 stands on the brink of writing their next chapter. Though their paths may differ from what they imagined as children, the dreams they once

Cooper Alahverdian, JP Miller, Gavin Gonyeau, Sam Blake, and Tommy Handen at the college career center with their college t-shirts on May 1. Photo taken by Nancy Jackson.

held continue to shape who they are becoming. Because at the end of the day, it's not just about who we wanted to be—it's about who we're becoming, and the journey in between.



2025 Senior Walk

The annual event of seniors returning to their elementary school before graduation.

Ella Stoudt | Social Media Editor



From left: Jayden Parr, Tim Rode, Lydia McFarland, Maggie and Reagan Seay at prom. Photo taken by Ruby Howland. From right: Eftihia Prevezianos, E Moran, Alethia Brown, Deaton, Sabrina Richter for prom photos on the with their mothers. Photo Alethia Brown.

end of the school year and serves as a milestone and of passage for seniors before graduate.

"I'm very excited for because I get to hang out celebrate the end of school my friends," senior Eric cells said.

At the end of May, seniors will walk around their old elementary schools. This field trip is a walk down memory lane for the seniors. The elementary students sit down and watch as their school's past graduates walk the once beloved halls. The senior walk is important for seniors because not all high schools get to do this.

"It's gonna give everyone huge amounts of nostalgia, and that's what it's all about. You see where you came from and how much you've grown — from the ceilings looking huge when you were young, to being able to touch them now," senior

Brandon Chisholm said.

The senior walk is very special for the seniors, getting to see the once big chairs now look small is going to be a huge achievement and an all-around circle of memories.

"I think some [seniors] will appreciate it and truly will miss the days of being a child. I myself know you do miss it," senior Justice Spiker said.

The walk makes you realize really how fast you grow up. When you look back at the days of being a kid, you find yourself reminiscing on the days where doing simple math was hard. Now you look at the AP

Calculus classes and realize how much you actually miss being a kid struggling to find out what $2+2$ is.

This event is truly special and rewarding. There may be tears shed and definitely some smiles. All seniors should look forward to this as an amazing opportunity.

May 16, 1:30 p.m.:

Oak Hill Elementary senior walk

May 16, 1:45 p.m.:

Severna Park Elementary senior walk

May 19, 1:30 p.m.:

Folger Elementary senior walk

May 19, 1:30 p.m.:

Benfield Elementary senior walk

May 20, 1:30 p.m.:

Shipley's Elementary senior walk

May 22, 1:45 p.m.:

Jones Elementary senior walk



MARYLAND

Towson University

Will Bresson
Gavin Hall

McDaniel College

Alexandra Adams
Josie Garrett

Hood College

Reagan Bennett

Loyola University of Maryland

Dimitri Bordone
Lukas Emrich

Lila Mancha
Victor Mesa

Stevenson University

Laney Deaton

Frostburg State University

Kellen Forbes

Salisbury University

Caleb Gremillion
Ryan Jamison
Jaidyn Jarrett

Bella Matters

Lily McCallister
Andrew Osborne
Alana Page

Timmy Sullivan
Landon Zawartka

University of Maryland College Park

Kate Behe
Benjamin Cangelosi
Cole Christesen
Isabel Fitzgerald
Natalie Frank
Sara Giver Olarte
Jake McLain
Ty Miller

Daniel Nikitin
Sara Rhodriquez
Caroline Santos
Katelyn Santos
Alex Stavrevski
Clara Wilson
Sydney Wilson
Nelson Zheng

University of Maryland Baltimore County

James Anguay
Gunner Chen
Travis Colburn
Ethan DeLeon
Elliott Earhart

Jacob Ford
Jack Fish
Ava Gilman
Madilyn Senisse

Virginia Tech

Robert Haufe
Dylan Newhard
James Alexander Perritt
Elizabeth Rutkauskas
Avery Serpa

VIRGINIA

James Madison University

Reese Butler
Everett Morrow

Cadence Phillips
Samantha Polk

The College of William & Mary

Tess Donegan
Isabella Van Gieson

Roanoke College

Maeve Byrne

Randolph Macon College

Merric Warren

George Mason University

Keelie Begin

Bridgewater College

Kaylee Gerber

Liberty University

Will Gruendl

Virginia Commonwealth University

Madisyn Eaton
Fiona Kelley

University of Mary Washington

Nathan Feinman
Alaina Kiefer

Emory & Henry University

Annika Saathoff

Hampden-Sydney College

Charles Fava

University of Delaware

Erin Hussey
Alyssa Kraus
Hannah Pope
Hailey Elizabeth Roberts

Ryleigh Smith
Caroline Varn

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia University

Rylie Cleary
Keaghan Gorski
Jillian Lewis
Andrew Parks

Kate Pumphrey
Emma Rogers
Jacob Triplett

Marshall University

Henry Lavy

NEW JERSEY

Rider University

Jenna Augustine

Seton Hall University

Caden Lazzor

RHODE ISLAND

University of Rhode Island

Ella McCarthy

WASHINGTON DC

The Catholic University of America

Camryn Lowman
Alex Lukas

CONNECTICUT

US Coast Guard Academy

Samuel Blake
Peter Judge

Yale University

Avery Saviano

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania State University
Jeremie Albert Bitoun Olivia Sosa
Jillian Kules

Chatham University
Harper Ferrence

Albright College
Benjamin Beisler

University of Pittsburgh
Maggie Byrnes
Jameson Murray

Lebanon Valley College
Dylan Grice
Jacob Williams

Elizabethtown College
Lillian McMiller

La Salle University
Kelsey Rowe

East Stroudsburg University
Addison Bianco

York College of Pennsylvania
Collin Mays

Columbia College of Chicago
Logan Symmes

Bryn Mawr College
Lydia McFarland

Drexel University
Samantha Madarang

University of Tampa

Alanna Adams
Tate Antinucci
Payton Jeffers

Connor Pietris
Emma Willetts

Northwestern University
Noah Gordon

University of Chicago
Aiden Houser

Flagler College
Natalie Bowman

Rollins College
Keira Abernethy

University of Miami
Leo Glister

Florida Atlantic University
Sophia Procaccini

Ringling College of Art and Design
Ruby Howland

Florida State University
Austin Ledford
Natalie Nelson
Theodore Skopp

University of South Florida
Pierce Brenner

NEW YORK

Syracuse University
Thomas Handen
Kate Roberts
Luca Sillitti

Alfred University
Reagan Hunt

New York University
Zach Seebold

Wagner College
Vince Nguyen

US Merchant Marine Academy
Ryder Halloran

Marist University
Charley Coward

University of Buffalo
Nathan Palechek

PACE University
Reilly Miller

TENNESSEE

Belmont University
Alethia Brown
Greyson Guenther

GEORGIA

Georgia Institute of Technology
Owen Cress
Tori Wright

Savannah College of Art and Design
Kaelin Tufo

NORTH CAROLINA

Elon University
Kate Griner

Appalachian State
Addison McLean

East Carolina University
Jake Davolio Eric Sheckells

University of North Carolina Greensboro
Abby Cover

North Carolina State University
Max Peacock

University of North Carolina Charlotte
Stephen Nunn

University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Luke Crabill

ALABAMA

Aburn University
Sydney Sloan

University of Alabama
Connor Stout

SOUTH CAROLINA

Clemson University
Rebecca Jimeno
Trevor Oakes

Leah Salkeld

Coastal Carolina University
Lily Gleisner
Jordan Shinnamon

University of South Carolina

Ellie Ballard
Juliana Vanech

Morgan Terry

GAP YEAR

Payton Oxenford
Reagan Seay

MICHIGAN

Michigan State University
Willa Angelo
University of Michigan
Covenant Akinremi

OHIO

Kenyon College
Joey Tramontana

Miami University
Emma Turk

Xavier University

Xavier Kane

Ohio Wesleyan University
Kate Livingston

UTAH

University of Utah
Terrence Murray

Brigham Young University
Josie Crockett Lacey Strom

Western Governors University
Emily Sellers

KENTUCKY

University of Kentucky
Logan Alpert Kasey Turnock
Siena Turner Abigail Wolfe



SPAIN

Select Generation Academy
Jack Nugent

COOPER ALAHVERDIAN:

Congratulations, Super Cooper! We're so proud of the person you've become-kind, courageous, and resilient. Your future awaits, Jeremiah 29:11-Dream boldly, work hard, and shine bright. Go Navy, Beat Army! God Bless you always!

Love, Mom, Dad, Quinn, Lola, and Barry

GILLIAN BEAN:

We are so proud of you! We know you will do great things at Va Tech. Let's go Hokies.
We love you! Mom and Dad

KEELIE BEGIN:

Congratulations Keek! We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished the last four years. We are excited for your next journey at George Mason University!
Mom, Dad, and Kelsey

ADDISON BIANCO:

Congratulations to our beautiful Addison!! We are so proud of you and can't wait to see you do amazing things at ESU!! Love you to God and back!
Mom, Dad, and Ryan

ATHAN BIGELOW:

Athan, your kindness, brilliance, creativity, and confidence are unmatched. You master everything with ease and purpose. Stay grounded, keep shining, and never stop being the incredible force that you are. Congratulations!! We love you so much!!
Love, Mom, Dad, Jay and Owen

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston University
Carys Preston

Northeastern University

Isabelle Chen

Smith College

Layla Ahmed Ibrahim

The Ohio State University

Abdul Amir
Abby Jeffers

Andrew Kessler

Framingham State University

Kristina Jones

Suffolk University

Ryan Bonner

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Amberlynn Gong

Western New England University
Elizabeth Jones

COLORADO

University of Colorado, Boulder

Shep Kegley

Jack Slote

Jake Sobocinski

CALIFORNIA

University of California, Irvine

Brendan Johnston

Pepperdine University

Christopher Pagan

Harvey Mudd College

Abbie Heath

University of San Diego

Thomas Miller

INDIANA

Purdue University

Brandon Chisholm

TEXAS

Texas A&M University
Olivia Vidrine

MISSISSIPPI

University of Mississippi
Crooper Croley

APPRENTICESHIP

Andrew Rutherford

ITALY

Temple University
Megan McCaskey

TRADE SCHOOL

Justice Spiker

NATALIE BOWMAN:

We are so proud of you! You rocked high school and we can't wait to see what you'll do next!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Piper

MAVEVE BYRNE:

Congratulations beautiful girl! Graduating has our fill our hearts with so much pride and joy. We have watched you grow, stumble, rise, and shine into the incredible young woman you are today. We are endlessly proud of you and will be cheering you on every step of the way. Love you tons!

Mom and Dad

WILL CAMPBELL:

We couldn't be more proud of you for stepping up to serve our country in the USMC! We love you and believe in you every step of the way.
Love, Mom & Dad

BRANDON CHISHOLM:

We are so proud of all the hard work and everything you have accomplished. Now go show Purdue what Ska is all about! viva la Ska! Boiler up!
Dad & Mom Chizzy

COLE CHRISTESEN:

Congratulations on all your success. We are so proud of all your hard work! We know you'll do great things in the future!

Mom, Dad, Reid, and Ollie

TRAVIS COLBURN:

Travis, CONGRATULATIONS! Always remember that you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think, and loved more than you'll ever know.
Mom & Dad

CATHERING DEARBORN:

Congratulations Catherine! You're the last Dearborn to graduate from SPHS. We're so proud of you! Good times ahead at Salisbury University. We love you!
Mom, Dad, Caitlyn and Cole, Michael, Madison and Chandler

LANEY DEATON:

Laney Ann, words would never be able to express how proud we are of you and all your accomplishments! Keep reaching for the stars and don't suck! We love you!
Love Mom

JACK DEAVER:

You will do amazing things in life! So very proud of you!
Love Mama, Paul and Moogie

DANIEL DONEY:

Danny, you are an amazing leader, encourager, and kind human. We are so proud of you!
Dad, Mom, Alek, Lincoln, Sammy and Katie Mae

ELLIOTT EARHART:

To the man you are becoming and the son you are, know that we are all proud of you. Best of luck at UMBC next fall. Go to class.
Love, Dad, Mom, Madelynn, Camdyn, Barf, Onyx and Navi

NATHAN FEINMAN:

So proud of your accomplishments this year, including your internship and UMW! Excited to see what the future holds!
Mom & Dad

JACK FISH:

Never stop dreaming big and believing in yourself. Your determination, kindness and strength will forever lead you to success. We'll always be your biggest fans!
All our love, Mom & Dad

SENIOR SHOUTOUTS

JOSEPHINE CARRETT:

Congratulations! We are so proud of your hard work and dedication. You are ready to spread your wings and we will be right by your side.
Much love, Mom, Dad, Addison and Sam

DYLAN GRICE:

Congrats on everything you have accomplished in high school. We can't wait to watch you play baseball in college next year!
Mom, Dad, Tyler and Ryan

GREYSON GUENTHER:

High school graduation is a huge milestone but the best part about it is that you're just getting started. Nashville awaits! We're cheering for and supporting you every step of the way. Congratulations!
Mom and Dad

GAVIN HALL:

Congrats on graduation and your acceptance into Towson! I will be at every game and will always cheer for my Long Snapper! I can't wait to see what incredible things you do in life.)
Love, Mom!

RYDER HALLORAN:

Ryder - We love you so much! We are so very PROUD of you! Congratulations on your graduation and everything that is to come! The SKY is the limit!
Love, Mom & Brent, Tristan and Cade

ROBERT HAUFE:

Congratulations, Robby, on your amazing high school journey! We look forward to all that lies ahead for you at VA Tech as you pursue Electrical Engineering and NROTC.
Love, Mom, Dad, and Kate

LEO HAVENS:

Leo, You always make us so proud, and we are so excited for your next adventure! We love you more than words can say!
Love, El Padre, Mama, Dash, and Sissy

KEELYN HOWARD:

"We are extremely proud of you! This is a huge accomplishment, and we can't wait to see what the future holds for you."
Mom, Cameron, Kayson and Family

RUBY HOWLAND:

Ruby- We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished. We can't wait to see what great things you do in the future. Love you more!
Dad, Mom and Cooper

LAYLA IBRAHIM:

Our Beautiful Layla, we are extremely proud of you. We know that the next steps are scary but you are capable of achieving big dreams.
Love, Dad, Mama, Samira, Adam, and Nadeen

HEBA IBRAHIM:

Our Granddaughter Laylula, we are very proud of you. We know you will be successful and achieve great things.
Live Mama Samia and Grandpa

RYAN JAMISON:

Congratulations, Ryan! We are so proud of you and wish you the best at Salisbury next year, even though we will miss you. We love you so much!
Mom, Tommy, Harry, James, Clara & Buddy

PAYTON JEFFERS:

Congrats Payton! We're so proud of the amazing person you've become. Dream big, chase your passions-we love you more than words!
Love, Mom, Dad, Ainsley, Sheehan and Tilghman

BECCA JIMENO:

We are so proud of you, Becca! Watching you thrive has been the greatest gift. Thank you for being you!
Mom, Dad & Alexa

PARKER JOHN:

Graduation congrats, Parker! We're so proud of all your hard work and can't wait to see you blaze the trail ahead!
Mom, Dad, Jacob, Emily, and Andrew

BRENDAN JOHNSTON:

Brendan we are so proud of you! We can't wait to watch the next adventure! We love you to infinity and beyond!
Dad, Mom, Morgan, Stella

PETER JUDGE:

Congratulations Peter, we are so proud of you! May you always have wind in your sails and a hand's breadth of water under your keel!
Mom and Dad and Paul and Page

KATE LIVINGSTON:

Congratulations! Keep going after it all, working hard, and chasing greatness. Your journey is just beginning at OWU! So proud of you, future doctor!
Mom, Dad, and Ryan

AMY LUKAS:

Alex, You are AMAZING and God has great plans for you! YOU DID IT and we are so proud of you!
Love you tons, Mom, Dad, James and Colin

LILA MANCHA:

Lila - we are so very proud of you! Class of 2025 was lucky to have you. We're your biggest fans, always. Our sunshine, love you to the moon!
Your loving, amazing parents and Gavin

LUKE MANUEL:

Congratulations on your graduation! I'm incredibly proud of your achievements and excited for your future. Wishing you endless success and happiness. You are the Best!
Love always, Mom

LIAM MARTINEZ:

We are so proud of you, kid. Can't wait to see what you do next.
Mommama Papa Sparrow

LILY MCCALLISTER:

We are proud of your hard work and many accomplishments. Congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your next adventure. Love you lots.
Mom, Anna, Nonnie, and PopPop

ELLA MCCARTHY:

You made it through all of the ups and downs of high school, and we could not be prouder of you. You are on to bigger and better things, so enjoy these next four years. Congratulations to our Rhody.
With love, Mom, Dad, Quinn & the Bubba

EMILIE MCKENNA:

Congrats Emilie Jolie!! You are a beautiful person inside and out. So proud of who you are and your hard work. God bless you and keep you!
The McKenna Clan

HANNAH MCLAUGHLIN:

Your spirit, determination, and thoughtfulness make things so much brighter. We are so proud of you Hannah. New adventures await and we will be cheering you on! LYSM
Mom, Dad, Ella and Maysie

JP MILLER:

What an exciting 18 years it's been. We can't wait to see what adventures lie ahead of you. "We Pray, hope and don't worry" - St. Padre Pio.
Love you, Mom, Dad, Jack and Joey

JAE MOK:

Jae- Congrats on graduating high school! we are so proud of you and love you so much! Remember life is as much about the journey as it is the destination. I can't wait to see where your journey takes you next!
Love Mom, Dad, Sam, Sierra and Balto and Trouble

VINCE NGUYEN:

We are so proud of all you've accomplished. We pray that your graduation is the beginning of a successful new chapter of your life.
Dad, Mom, Mary, and Timmy

STEPHEN NUNN:

Congratulations Stephen! We love you, and can't wait to see what you do at UNC Charlotte next year.
Mom, Dad, Chris, and Cate

TREVOR OAKES:

Congratulations, Trevor! Last but never least: We know you'll do great things!
Love, Mom, Dad, Jeannette, Dustin, Joe, Elyse, and Austin

LOGAN PARKS:

Well done! We are so proud that you chose a challenging path, put in the work and have set yourself up for success. Keep doing your best and the sky's the limit!
Mom & Dad

ALEX PERRITT:

Congrats on graduation and all your hard work! Can't wait to see what the future holds for you!
Mom, Dad, & Charlie

CONNOR PIETRIS:

We are so proud of everything you have accomplished. Let your heart, kindness and resilience always be your guide. Can't wait to witness all the amazing journeys you will have.
Love Mom, Dad and Ellie

JOHN RAY:

Congratulations! The road ahead is full of opportunities. We believe in you and your incredible potential. We know you will do great things. Enjoy the journey!
Love, Mom, Dad and Colin

ANDREW RUTHERFORD:

Keep Smiling! You will do great things. Congratulations!
Love, Dad, Mom, and Antony

ELIZABETH RUTKAUSKAS:

We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. The best is yet to come, Go Hokies!
Mom, Dad, and Andrew

EMILY SELLERS:

We are so very proud of you Emily. You are amazing daughter. You have done so much already. We can't wait to see all what you will do in the future. We love you!
Mom Dad

ERIC SHECKELLS:

We are so incredibly proud of you and happy for you! Congratulations, we love you!
Mom, Dad, Alex, Gams, Gumps, Grandmom

JORDAN SHINNAMON:

We are so proud of all you've accomplished and know you are on your way to doing wonderful things! We love you so much!
Mom, Dad, Ethan, Charlotte & Jovie

SYDENY SLOAN:

You have worked so hard and we are so proud of you! We love you! War Eagle!!
Mom, Dad, Taylor, Morgan, Hunter, Stella & Sterling

RYLEIGH SMITH:

Ryleigh, I am so proud of who you have become! You have stuck to your passions and worked hard to achieve your dreams. I can't wait for you to be our veterinarian!
Love, Mom

BRODAY STAVREVSKI:

Congratulations, Brody!!! You can do amazing things. We love you!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Gianna

ALEX STAVREVSKI:

Congratulations, Alex! We are so excited for what's next. We love you!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Gianna

CONNOR STOUT:

Today we celebrate you, Connor Stout! Tomorrow, we cheer you on at Alabama. Wherever life takes you, our love follows. Dream big, stay bold, and Roll Tide all the way!
Love, Mom, Dad and Taylor

KAYLI TODD:

Congratulations on your graduation! We are excited to see what you accomplish next. The sky's the limit!
Love always, Mom, Dad, and Juli

KASEY TURNOCK:

Kasey - we can't wait to watch your next chapter unfold. We love you and will miss you so much!
Love always, Mom, Dad, and Juli

OLIVIA VIDRINE:

Olivia Vidrine, We are extremely proud of you and excited to see what you do in the future!
Mom, Dad, and Olivia

CAROLINE WEST:

To Our Sweet Caroline, We love you more than words can say. It's hard to believe our baby is off to college! We're so proud of the amazing young woman you've become and can't wait to see what's next. You're going to do great things—we just know it. Love you always, Mom & Dad
Mom and Dad

NAOMI WILLIS:

Naomi: D, J, M, B, S (^, ^) and I are so proud of you! You are exactly who you need to be! Anything IS possible...
Mom, Desmond, Jackson, and the cats

SYDNEY WILSON:

We are so proud of you, Sydney! You have grown into a kind, thoughtful and intelligent young woman. The best is yet to come! Love you!
Mom, Dad, Kristy and Snickers

College Application Guide

For students who want to attend college immediately after high school, applying to colleges takes months, beginning at the end of junior year and lasting throughout senior year.

Alethia Brown | Copy Editor

The first step in the process of college applications is to decide which colleges you're applying to. Some people recommend choosing safety, match and reach schools (schools that you'll almost certainly get into, that you're expected to get into and that you might not get into, based on statistics like GPA and SAT scores). However, you obviously don't have to apply to schools in all of these categories. Many factors influence the choice in where to apply (and eventually where to attend), such as visits, location and if the school has your desired major.

Most students apply to multiple colleges. Applications can be different between schools, though. Staying organized will help get everything done on time—or even early—so that you can get accepted to your school of choice.

You also need to decide if you are applying early decision, early action or regular decision. Early decision means you are committed to go to the college if you are accepted, and you'll cancel applications to other schools. You can only apply early decision to one school, and it typically has an earlier deadline, but many schools prioritize students who apply early decision and will return their decision earlier. Early action is similar, but it isn't binding, so there is less commitment. Not all colleges offer either, though.

Once you've decided where you're applying, find out whether they use Common App or a private application. The Common App is an application portal that many schools use. It's convenient because you fill out the background information once, and it sends the relevant information to each

school.

However, some schools have their own portals instead of the Common App, and some schools allow you to pick. Typically, the Common App opens on Aug. 1, while private applications often open in July. The earlier you get it done, the better, because you'll probably get busy during the school year.

Once you have your accounts, again, stay organized: make a list of what each school requires (recommendations, AP/ACT/SAT scores, essays, fees, deadlines and anything else). The application organizer from the counseling center's website is a great tool for this. You should note deadlines; early decision, early action and regular decision will probably have different deadlines, and some colleges have deadlines for applying with no fee.

Next, you can fill out your application(s). Often there is background information, short answer questions and an essay (or multiple essays). The good news is that you write a college essay at the end of English 11, which can cut out a bit of work—and it's already edited.

You'll likely need at least one letter of recommendation, too. Many people suggest asking teachers at the end of your junior year, though you can ask later (but beware of leaving it too late, or they won't have much time). You might need a letter from your counselor, and some schools require outside references. However, make sure you know what you need, because the number and type you need varies, and you don't want to waste someone's time.

SPHS has you upload the letter of rec worksheet from

the counseling center website and your resume to Naviance. If you use CommonApp, you have to match your accounts and choose the correct deadlines (i.e. if you apply early decision, pick that date on Naviance) so that the letters will be sent correctly. If the correct deadline is not an option, your counselor can change it. Private applications usually come with instructions for where to send the letters, so make sure you communicate that with your recommenders.

Your school might also require test scores (like APs, the SAT or the ACT). You can go through the CollegeBoard or ACT to send those scores, though you pay a fee. You also have to send transcripts to schools. You can pay for those at the counseling center's front desk.

After you finish your applications, review and submit them. You'd think you're done, but after sending in applications, there's a bit more. The Free Application for Fed-

eral Student Aid (FAFSA) and the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile ordinarily open in October, though lately there have been updates to the FAFSA, so it's been later. Most schools only use the FAFSA, but some use the CSS, so you should check what your school requires.

Throughout the process, you should apply to scholarships. Most schools have scholarships that you can apply for, like out-of-state and service scholarships. Search for those, and also look at local ones (which are on Naviance and through the counseling center).

After that, it's a waiting game. Decision letters and financial aid packages come out in the following months, hopefully with positive news, and then it's on to National Decision Day on May 1.

The screenshot shows the Common App login interface. At the top, there's a blue header with the 'common app' logo. Below it, two tabs are visible: 'First Year Students' (selected) and 'Transfer Students'. The main heading is 'Sign In'. A message reads: 'First year student? Great! Enter your email and password below to sign in, or [create an account](#) to get started.' A note states: '* Indicates required fields.' There are two input fields: 'Email *' and 'Password *'. Below the password field is a checkbox labeled 'Show password' and a link 'Forgot password?'. A blue 'Sign in' button is at the bottom right.

The Common App is a portal for applications. Over 1000 schools use the Common App. For students, the Common App is helpful because they only have to fill out background information once. Photo taken by Alethia Brown

Guide to College Living

How to prepare for life on campus.

Lily Feinman | Staff Writer

After all the work of college searches, applications and acceptances, there comes a final daunting task: preparing for actual college living. Between classes, roommates and dorms, there are many aspects to consider. If you're feeling lost, this guide can assist you with preparations for your college experience.

CLASSES:

One of the freedoms of college is being able to choose classes and class times. Classes fill up quickly, so it's important to start looking early. It's possible that you won't get all the classes you want, so have alternative classes in mind. Make sure to balance your course load and choose class times that work for your schedule so you aren't overwhelmed.

Most colleges require basic core classes like science, math, social studies, English and foreign language. Many colleges also have a required freshman seminar class, which is designed to help integrate students into the college environment.

To fulfill class requirements or get into higher levels, colleges have different AP credit policies. They may offer credit for test scores of three or higher, while others may require a four or five. After the AP exams,

log into your College Board account and request that your score reports be sent to the college you're attending to transfer the credit.

DORMS:

Which dorm is right for you? The most common dorms are traditional style, which have communal bathrooms and common areas on each floor. Some colleges also offer Jack-and-Jill rooms, which are two bedrooms connected by a bathroom. Depending on what college you attend, some dorms are co-ed by floor, meaning males and females live on different floors, while others are co-ed by room, allowing for mixed-gender rooms. When thinking about a dorm, it's important to consider what's right for your specific needs.

As for what to bring for your dorm, make sure to have the necessities like bedding, toiletries and cleaning supplies. To avoid unnecessary trips to the kitchen, buy a mini-fridge (if not provided) to store food and drinks. For the bathroom, bring a shower caddy for storage and flip-flops for the communal shower. Another thing to bring is organizational supplies, like storage bins and hangers, to keep track of your belongings.

An important aspect of dorm living is decoration. Some people decorate their dorms based on their individual taste, while others choose to plan with their roommates. Many colleges have strict rules regarding fire hazards, so items like candles, twinkle lights and curtains often aren't allowed.

FINDING ROOMMATES:

Roommate matching apps: A modern option for finding roommates are matching apps like ZeeMee, RoomSync and Roomie. Many roommate matching apps work similarly to a dating site, with a profile and swipe system for potential matches. Apps specifically tailored to college students, like ZeeMee, have chat features that allow you to connect with other students before ever stepping foot on campus.

Most colleges will also have a class of 2029 page on Facebook or Instagram where students can connect with potential roommates. Social media is a great resource because you can check someone's profile to ensure they are a good match for you.

For a more traditional route, colleges also offer their own roommate matching services to help you find a compatible roommate. Roommates are

assigned through a questionnaire or survey which matches students with similar living habits and interests.

Although this may seem like a lot, remember that college life takes some adjusting for everyone, and there will always be faculty members like guidance counselors and academic advisors to help you on your journey. So be excited, enjoy the rest of your time in Severna Park and remember that there are resources as well as tips and tricks that can make your transition into college easier.

The University of Maryland (UMD) is Maryland's state university. This photo features the campus of UMD College Park, which is the main, oldest, and largest campus. Photo by University of Maryland



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From Doubters to Fans

Many did not expect the Florida Gators to win the tournament.

Nate Lourie | Staff Writer

The Florida Gators really shined in this year's March Madness tournament. This Florida team, led by Walter Clayton Jr., fought their way to the third NCAA title in the team's history. This wasn't just a story of a team getting hot at the right time. It was the result of a season built on hard work and teamwork. From knocking off No. 1 seeds to clawing back from double-digit deficits, the Gators delivered a March Madness run that fans will remember.

Before their final win in April, the Florida Gators were making a special regular season run. With a 27-4 regular season record and a 14-4 record in the elite Southeastern Conference, Florida seemed unbreakable. When it came time for the SEC Tournament, Florida put on a show. As the No. 2 seed, they powered past Missouri, Alabama and Tennessee to secure their first conference tournament title since 2014. But there were still doubters. Excellent teams like Duke, Auburn and Houston left fans with uncertainty about Florida.

Florida opened their tournament with a bang, destroying No. 16 Norfolk State 95-69. This was expected from the Gators and the real challenge came in round two. They faced UConn, who were the two-time defending champs. Walter Clayton Jr. proved the Gators were serious as he put up 23 points and fought back in the second half to win 77-75. They didn't stop when they played Maryland either. Calmly scoring 87, Florida looked and played really well. Using their depth on the bench and persistent defense, the Gators moved on to the elite eight. However, when the Gators played Texas Tech things took a turn for the worse. Texas Tech held a 9 point lead in the second half and all hope seemed lost. Clayton Jr. and the Gators did not lose hope, though. Clayton Jr. sank two 3 point shots that started a rally. Florida held Texas Tech to just 4 points to close the game with the final score being 84-79.

Clayton Jr. and the Gators didn't stop there. In the next game Florida pulled out the victory,



beating Auburn 79-73. Walter Clayton Jr. put up 34 points and the Gators moved on to the championship.

In the title game against Houston, Florida overcame a 12-point second-half deficit to clinch a 65-63 victory. Clayton Jr. contributed 11 points in the second half and made a crucial defensive play in the final seconds.

This marks the Gators' third national championship, and their first in nearly two decades. They showed that even

victory secured, the Florida Gators celebrate their 2025 NCAA Championship in style. Photo taken by the Gainesville Sun

the powerhouses like UConn, Maryland and Houston, didn't stand a chance. Even in times of trouble they found a way to come back which made this tournament even more exciting. The Gators proved why they were ranked No. 1 in the western region. Now they can celebrate until next March—when other teams will try to dethrone the defending champs.

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AUG 04

Senior distribution (class of 2025) will be from 10-12 PM outside CAFE. Bring an ID for pick up.

AUG 04

Extra yearbooks will be sold to seniors only from 10-12 PM. Cash only.

SEPT 2-4

All underclassmen can pick up their books during lunches. Bring an ID. If there are extra books, they will be sold during this week.

Seniors' Last Game

Seniors reflect on their experiences with sports over their high school years.

Elsa Webster | Editor-in-Chief

Senior year brings about many goodbyes as students embark on their last year of high school. For many Severna Park students, this means saying goodbye to a sport they have played throughout high school or even before.

"I played tennis when I was little. I'm from Florida, and my parents had gotten me into it really early. I grew up playing all different kinds of sports, but always like with tennis you can play for your entire life. Same thing with running, you can always grow up and do that," senior Colin Marsh said.

Marsh plays for the school's tennis team and runs track. One of his memories from the first year playing with the school involved the seniors that year.

"I remember watching the seniors that were playing at the time, and seeing how focused they were on everything, even if it wasn't the hardest match, how they always attacked everything," Marsh said.

Kate Behe is another senior saying goodbye to her sports (basketball, unified bocce and tennis). Her interest came from the camaraderie and the common interest of those who she played with.

"For basketball, I think that it was just finding a group with people that I shared interest with in high school; I never really thought about playing a sport in high school and I had only played for fun, in the past. I am very competitive, so, I just think that I wanted to play at a higher level," Behe said. "And for unified tennis and bocce I was trying to find just a way to stay

involved and I had heard about it through a friend. I was injured during my freshman year so I couldn't play any sports but, I just thought it would be another big way to stay involved and it's been like such an awesome opportunity to meet new people from across the county and just share differences, and making friendships."

Behe, due to her injuries sustained from playing sports in high school, does not plan to pursue basketball at college as a player, but as a manager.

"I think I'm gonna go to Maryland and I want to be a manager for their women's basketball team which I feel like I've gained enough experience this year, not being able to play basketball where I got to see the court from a different perspective and like keep stats and cheer on my teammates in good way," Behe said.

For one senior, an important moment in her high school tennis career was a victory.

"We were playing against Broadneck and we lost to them the last two years that I've been on the team. And we

finally beat them five to four, and it was partly because of my match. I lost the first set, six to one, I was playing doubles with Maggie Balderston, and then we won the second set, six to one, so now we were tied, we needed a tie break. And it went back and forth, back and forth, and we finally came out victorious 11 to 9, so very, very close, we had to win by two points," senior Lacey Strom said.

This was especially significant to Strom as two years prior, she had lost a similar game against Broadneck where it came down to the last set of her match.

"Which was amazing because my sophomore year, my first year on the team, I played against Broadneck at a similar game, where I was playing doubles with a girl. And we won the first set, lost the second set, had to go a tie break, and we lost the tie break, and that was really heartbreaking to me. I felt like I let down the team," Strom said. "It was also similar in the fact that they beat us five to four, so it was like, my match determined if we won or lost, but this year, I was able to win and we were able to win as a team."

A crucial part of these seniors' athletic experience that they will be saying goodbye to is the collaboration and support given by fellow teammates that could be found in the different teams at Severna Park.

"Favorite memory is just kind of like how everyone on the team supports each other and cheers for everyone no matter what happens, how everyone's always supportive, no matter what the outcome is," Marsh said.

"I think last year when basketball won the region finals against South River, that was pretty awesome. And especially cutting down South River's net. It just kind of felt so fulfilling and our team last year was just such a family, so I love being able to celebrate them," Behe said.

Seniors Emma Rogers, Kate Behe, Josie Crockett, Lena Slade, Erin Hussey, Payton Jeffers, Charlotte Coward and Abigail Cover pose in the girls locker room underneath a banner celebrating senior sports players. Photo taken by Charley Coward



Seniors' Favorite Teachers

"Ms. Stahl because she showed a lot of passion in her subject."
TREVOR OAKES

"Mr. Kandra because he made US History such a fun class and was always such an enjoyable teacher to talk to in and outside of class. He also, through social issues class, really taught me how to form and support my own opinions. And that one skill alone has helped me in so many situations outside of social issues class."
LUKE CRABILL

"Mr. Bernstein. He taught the class where I figured out I wanted to major in engineering."
ELIZABETH JONES

"Mr. Bryden because he always encouraged us to listen to understand and embrace different perspectives."
CADEN LAZZOR

"My most impactful teacher is Mrs. Fornadel, she has always been there for me through thick and thin. She was not only my teacher but a huge support to my mental health during hard times. She truly has helped me so much throughout the years and makes me and so many other students' days better."
OLIVIA JONES

"Mrs. Cosh, her class taught me how to use your peers and collaborate to overcome a common problem."
DANIEL NIKITIN

"My most impactful teacher would definitely be Mrs. Poole because she helped me decide my major in college through meaningful lessons and fun activities."
JAMES ANGUAY

"Mrs. Williams because she makes me feel heard and seen."
HAILEY ROBERTS

"My most impactful teacher is Mrs. Cosh because she taught me the foundation of my physics knowledge that I will use in the future as an engineering major."
LUKE DEBAUGH

Who is your most impactful teacher?

"All of my teachers impacted me in different ways, and I am deeply grateful for all of their efforts and contributions. They helped pave the path to where I am today."
SAVANNAH HOGUE

"My most impactful teacher was Mrs. Meadows. She made learning about statistics fun and her class was very engaging."
REBECCA JIMENO

"Ms. Hendler because she cares about her students and is passionate about her students and the unified program which is something I look up to."
JASE TETRAULT

"Mr. Kandra, if it wasn't for him I definitely wouldn't be the person I am now, I would still be a little timid person."
EFTIHIA PREVEZIANOS

"Mrs. Greenlee; she introduced me to my love of biochemistry."
MAEVE BYRNE

"Mr. Gardner and Mr. Marks because they have always been there for whenever I needed a confidence boost in my sport and in school! They have also always been there to celebrate my accomplishments whether they were as small as getting a good grade on a test or as big as committing to college for softball! I don't know where I would be without either of them!"
ADDISON BIANCO

"Ms. Colon impacted me the most, because without her, I don't think I would've enjoyed learning about business as much, and I definitely wouldn't have decided to become a marketing major. She always tried to make her class interesting, and I looked forward to the days I had a class she taught."
MAGGIE MORAN

"Ms. Greenlee because her knowledge inspired me."
COOPER ALAHVERDIAN

"Mrs. Wess because she is always in a positive mood no matter the situation and treats all of her students with love."
TERRENCE MURRAY

"Ms. Kraft because she helped me understand everything better and always brightened up my day."
CATHERINE DEARBORN

"Mrs. Allam because she taught me a lot about other people and how they think in general. I think her lessons will bring me far in life when it comes to personal connections."
TATE ANTINUCCI

"My most impactful teacher is Coach Buck because he has been there for me at all times the last four years."
DYLAN GRICE

"My most impactful teacher was Ms. Dattlebaum because she made me feel at home in Severna Park."
CAITLIN KUVINKA

"My most impactful teacher is Mrs. Nulud. She taught me how to effectively study and how to persevere through tough challenges."
LYDIA MCFARLAND

"Dunbar, I've had him every year until senior year. Funniest teacher in the building and a good teacher."
AIDEN WAITERS

"My most impactful teacher is Ms. Mermod because she not only taught me how to analyze and write effectively but also pushed me to think critically about my ideas and how I express them."
MATTHEW ZHOU

Advice to the Class of 2025

"Go to the symphony, it will change your life."

- Mr. Kilby

"Read J.J. Rousseau, Machiavelli, and Austen. Some thinkers never go out of style."

- Theresa Goldberg

"Be a kid. You have a lot of years to worry about the future and adult things, worry about now. Stop stressing about having all the checks in the right boxes."

- Jeanine Cosh

"Determination and persistence can accomplish amazing things."

- Arthur Boorman

"Class of 2025: Take risks, ask questions, and be passionate about what you believe in."

- Bethany Fish

"All things are difficult before they are easy."

- Carol Bak

"Do what makes YOU happy not what makes others happy. Find the people that accept you for YOU."

- Megan Taylor

"Do not just try, do it, then you'll see the difference."

- Sarah Fe Cabanalan

"Make good choices every day because they determine what your tomorrow looks like."

- Steve Gorrick

"Travel the world while you are still young! The older you get, the harder it is to get away. Also, do the Study Abroad Program in college."

- Nikki Slater

"Give a smile to everyone you meet, you never know what someone is going through."

- Mr. Bernstein

"Do something that you love! You will then be happy forever!"

- Suzanne Dattelbaum

"Don't be afraid to make mistakes! That's how we learn. And... sometimes mistakes are right!"

- Sara Metcalfe

"Follow the path you enjoy, be willing to do hard work, it's okay if you mess up- try again. And remember you are a loved Falcon."

- Kim Wess

"Stop stressing so much - it's going to be ok."

- Heather Allam

"Embrace change. Life is full of surprises!"

- Annie Houghton

"Above everything else, CREATE BALANCE in your lives and do not be afraid to ask for help when you need it."

- Staci Cassarino

"Keep learning and growing your whole life long. Continue to challenge yourself mentally and physically."

- Sabra Hill

"Never stop learning. The world is full of different and exciting experiences, collect as many as you can."

- Nathan Johnson

"If plan A fails, have a plan B through Z."

- Andrea Alcombright

"It's no cliché to say that the small things are the big things. Be on the lookout for the tiny, everyday miracles and cultivate a practice of gratitude."

- Brigid Harrington

"Get some nice earplugs to wear when you go to concerts. Not only will they protect your hearing, quality earplugs will also make the concert sound better."

- Garth Witmer

"Keep your chin up and keep taking one step forward at a time. Control your marbles!"

- Heather Williams

"Work hard, play hard!"

- Pete Buck

"Remember that you are loved; your high school transcript does not define you, your heart, or your character."

- Jessica Greenwood

"Make time to do the things that make you happy!"

- Mark Haring

"Take one day at a time. Don't rush through life. Stop and see the beauty in the small and simple things in life."

- Nick Barrett

"Be authentically yourself."

- Joseph Phillips

"Keep things in perspective. When you struggle, know that there's someone out there who is struggling way more than you."

- Janna Kintzley

"Live your priorities. Value people above accomplishments. Work hard!"

- Bernadette Kraft

"Discover your passion and find a way to make it your career."

- Angi Sasse

"Doing your best each day will always be enough!"

- Melanie Doucette

"Take ownership of your journey. Don't be afraid to make mistakes—learn from them. Focus on building relationships and skills that will last, and always stay curious. Life after high school may seem daunting, but remember, it's also full of opportunities. Be adaptable, work hard and don't hesitate to ask for help when you need it. Your future is in your hands, and you're capable of more than you realize."

- Michelle Dugans

"Put your phone down and embrace real live action moments!!!"

- Tracey Stakem

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

- Leah Marks

"Study abroad!"

- Sarah Downey

**"It's time to say
goodbye, but I think
goodbyes are sad and
I'd much rather say
hello. Hello to a new
adventure." - Ernie Harwell**

Clethia Brown

*Reddyon
Roseau*

Ruby Howard