

February 2024

Dear Graduating Seniors and Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for your ongoing support of Silver Creek High School. High school graduation is the apex of our students' journey from kindergarten through their senior year of high school. In order to honor students and families, graduation is planned as a formal, dignified ceremony. This is a momentous occasion for our Class of 2024 and we look forward to celebrating this achievement!

This document lists details, expectations and dates. Please read it carefully and in its entirety; every senior is required to abide by the expectations.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the front office at (720) 494-3721.

Seniors will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony if they fail to complete St. Vrain's graduation credit requirements by Friday, May 24, 2024. Grades for online courses outside of St. Vrain and all Work Study final documentation need to be turned in to the Counseling Office Registrar by Friday, May 3, 2024. Seniors who violate the [St. Vrain Valley Code of Conduct](#) may be denied participation in end-of-the-year activities, including the graduation ceremony.

We are looking forward to honoring the Class of 2024 alongside our students, families, friends and faculty!

GO Raptors!

Sincerely,
Erick Finnestead
Principal
Silver Creek High School

Seniors' End-of-Year Events

April 2024 - Auditions for Senior Night and Graduation will take place in April of 2024. Student speeches are to be no longer than five minutes. Valedictorian and Salutatorian must audition for any speech provided at these events and are not guaranteed a speaking engagement. All speeches should be fully prepared and ready to present to the faculty committee. The faculty committee determines selection of participants. Auditions will also occur for musical acts (Senior Night) and the singing of the National Anthem (Graduation and Senior Night). We encourage students to audition. Please note we may not be able to incorporate all students who have auditioned into performances at Senior Night and Graduation.

Week of April 29, 2024 - Seniors enter into Naviance the college they've confirmed they'll be attending so a final transcript will be sent in early June. * We are aware of the issues that are occurring with FAFSA

applications and how this may delay seniors' final decision on college selection. We will continue to work with students to assure transcripts are delivered to the university/college they will be attending.

Graduation Signs - One Graduation yard sign will be provided to all seniors, courtesy of Silver Creek Education Foundation. These Graduation signs will be personalized with the name and a photograph of each senior. SCEF uses the same senior photos that were submitted to the Yearbook committee. Names will be printed as listed in Infinite Campus. If you would like a different name on the sign, please let us know by March 15th using this form: <https://forms.gle/Xd3MJJDgZ3FKE1DEk6>. We will be distributing signs the first week of May. Need an extra sign? We suggest a \$20.00 donation for each additional sign. If you would like to order an additional graduation sign please register at this link by March 25th: <https://2024-graduation-sign.cheddarup.com>. All questions regarding graduation signs can be directed to: president@schsedfoundation.org.

Week of May 6-10, during the school day Checkout Form - Seniors take the check-out form (available in the IMC) to all their SCHS classes so teachers can sign off that textbooks and other class materials have been returned and that all student fees (for courses, athletics, uniforms and lost books) are paid in full.

- ★ Pay fees online via Infinite Campus with a credit or debit card or eCheck. Go to the school website > [Quick Link: Payment Center](#). [Infinite Campus Payment Center Instructions](#)
- ★ Check or exact cash is accepted in the front office with Mrs. Arling, Mrs. Clark or Mrs. Templeton.
- ★ The Checkout Form must be completed to obtain your Cap and Gown.

May 13-15 Checkout Form, iPad Return - Checkout form turned in with all signatures to Mrs. Arling, Mrs. Clark or Mrs. Templeton in the front office. Check out forms will be made available in May. You must turn in your checkout form to receive your Cap, Gown and Graduation packet.

Wednesday, May 15 - Last academic day of school for seniors - B Day Blocks 5-8.

Friday, May 17 - Senior Breakfast, Graduation Walks and Senior Walkout

- ★ **All seniors must bring their cap and gown to wear on our Graduation Walks**
- ★ Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. in the Cafeteria
- ★ Class of 2024 Banner Signing
- ★ Graduation Rehearsal Main Gym 8:50 a.m
- ★ Graduation Walks at Feeder Schools Only 9:30 a.m. We get on the school bus for this!
- ★ Senior Procession out of the building approximately 11:00-11:30 a.m. We invite parents and families to line our front exit area and greet their seniors on their walk out of the building.
- ★ Final opportunity to return iPad & white Apple 12W power block @ Library
- ★ Envelope pickup - senior night, cap & gown unit and other graduation regalia.
- ★ Check in with your counselor regarding post-secondary plans and scholarships.
- ★ Yearbook distribution with Mrs. Boardman. We plan to do this at the Breakfast.

Thursday, May 23, 6:00 p.m. - SENIORS ARRIVE BY 5:30 IN THE CAFETERIA - Senior Night at Silver Creek High School - Senior Night is traditionally an opportunity to recognize senior contributions in oratory, music and academics. Seniors will be highlighted with academic awards, academic top 10, announcement of Valedictorian and Salutatorian, unveiling of senior banner and the Senior slideshow. Seniors may have up to four guests at this event, PLEASE USE THE BRACELETS PROVIDED IN CAP AND GOWN PACKETS, AS TICKETS FOR THIS EVENT. This will be held indoors in the Silver Creek High School gymnasium. This event will also be televised on our Raptor TV Network on YouTube.

Senior Night Slideshow

We like to feature all of our seniors in the Senior Night Slideshow. We are looking for pictures of our seniors while they have attended Silver Creek. You may send picture submissions here: **Senior Slideshow email:** SCHSsenior24@gmail.com We look forward to highlighting all of our seniors.

Graduation Ceremony

When: Saturday, May 25, 2024 - the ceremony will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Silver Creek High School Main Field, 4901 Nelson Road, Longmont, CO 80503

Graduates: All graduates are to arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. and report to the Main Gym

General Field Seating & Tickets -

- We want all of our families to have an opportunity to view their child's Graduation.
- Silver Creek will provide chairs for six guests. We will cluster arrangements of six chairs for each family. **SEATING IS NOT ASSIGNED, IT IS PROVIDED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SEATED BASIS. WE ASK THAT YOU FILL THE SEATING FROM FRONT TO BACK.**
- Gates will open at 8:00 a.m. to access the field and select your seats.
- Should you have more than six guests, we ask that you bring your own seating and place this behind the established seating area.
- We kindly ask that only graduates and guests be allowed in the established seating area on the field.
- These items are **not** allowed during the ceremony: air horns, beach balls, noisemakers, cowbells, whistles, umbrellas or anything that obstructs other guests' view, firecrackers, etc. Please respect the dignity of the event and allow all families the opportunity to hear their graduate's name announced.

Entry Information - Additional details will be provided the week prior to the ceremony.

- All guests should be seated prior to 9:50 a.m. We highly suggest arriving by 9:30 a.m. or earlier
- Parking is available at Silver Creek (in the front lot only), Altona Middle School, Eaglecrest Elementary, along Grandview Avenue.
- Disabled parking is available in the rear of Silver Creek. Please have your placard available.
- The rear of the building will be closed access to disabled and staff parking only.
- We will have golf carts to help transport our guests.

Graduation Programs - Every Graduate will be issued a Graduation Program in their Graduation packet. Programs will be distributed at our entries to the field.

Graduate Photographs - On April 4, 2024 a professional photographer will be coming to Silver Creek High School to photograph any senior that would like to have a professional photograph taken in their cap and gown. Photographs will be available for sale.

Diplomas/Diploma Covers - During the ceremony, students will receive an empty maroon bi-fold diploma cover. As soon as the ceremony is over we will be distributing diplomas in the front of the school. Please stop by to receive your diploma. If you forget, administrative staff will be here through June 7th to distribute diplomas. When you obtain your diploma it will also contain a record of your immunizations.

Dress Code for Graduation - Seniors are required to wear the official Silver Creek Cap and Gown. We kindly ask that Graduates dress formally. Students should wear shoes fitting for the occasion. Due to the artificial turf, we kindly ask that NO high heels are worn for graduates or guests.

Inclement Weather Plan - In the event of inclement weather that impacts Graduation ceremonies, we will move the Graduation ceremony indoors to our main Silver Creek gymnasium. The potential indoor Graduation

ceremony will be held as close as possible to 10:00 a.m. on May 25, 2024. Any changes to the event being held indoors will be communicated via email, text and posted to our website. Each graduate will receive 4 tickets/wristbands for their guests to attend the indoor ceremony (These are the same wristbands used for Senior Night). We will livestream the indoor Graduation ceremony. We will also allow for non ticketed guests to observe the livestream in our Auditorium.

Watching Online - The ceremony will be streamed live on the SCHS Raptor TV YouTube channel; the link will go live right before the ceremony begins.

Note breakfast items will be available for sale at our concessions stand leading up to the ceremony between 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Cap, Gown and Regalia Information

Only district-approved caps, gowns, stoles, cords, pins, and medals listed below may be worn at graduation. Maintaining the look and standardization of items worn maintains the pride and dignity of the graduation. Lei's, cloths, and other non-approved items are not allowed to be worn during the ceremony.

Cap and gown units are still available for purchase through Jostens, order information below. The Jostens cap and gown 2024 "unit" includes a maroon cap, maroon gown and SCHS maroon and silver tassel. The basic unit cost price increases as the graduation date gets closer. Cap and gown units are shipped to SCHS.

To place an order online, go to: www.gotograd.com > Graduation > Scroll down and click Cap & Gown Unit > choose Silver Creek HS > enter all information > Add to Cart. Additional products are available for purchase and are shipped directly to the purchaser. For questions regarding orders, you can contact Lindsay Bellus with Jostens, 970-223-7119, email: bellus.office@jostens.com.

Financial Need?

If you are in need of support to purchase your SCHS cap and gown please stop by and discuss with Ms. Arling. Every student should participate in Graduation and we will make sure you get to attend your Graduation. We will provide support for cap and gown purchase, for families in need. We do not cover expenses for things such as announcements and photos.

Gowns will be delivered folded up in a plastic bag along with the cap and tassel. We recommend you hang the gown to loosen up the folds; *do not iron it*. Robes must be worn as issued. They will be zipped up the front for the entire ceremony and may not be modified in any way.

Cap Decorating - Students are allowed to decorate their graduation caps for the graduation ceremony. Only the flat, top area of the mortar board may be decorated. There may be nothing hanging down from any of the sides of the cap. 3D decorations not to exceed ½ inch off the top surface of the cap are allowed. Graduation caps will be reviewed and approved in advance of the ceremony. If a cap is deemed inappropriate, a new plain cap will be issued to the student for the ceremony.

Caps may not contain any advertisement, symbols, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that:

- Refer to drugs or controlled substances, tobacco, alcohol, or weapons.
- Are of a sexual nature.
- By virtue of color, arrangement, trademark, or other attribute denoting affiliation with gangs or which advocate drug use, violence, illegal activity, or disruptive behavior which is detrimental to the safety and welfare of other students.
- Are obscene, profane, vulgar, lewd, or legally libelous.

- Threaten the safety and welfare of any person.

Caps should be placed on the head so that the mortarboard is level, with the long point of the crown to the back. The front point should be worn down on the forehead. Do not tilt the cap backward or forward. Some students may need bobby pins to hold the cap in place. *Tassels are to be worn over the right side* and should be permitted to hang naturally. After the closing remarks, graduates will be instructed to move their tassel from the right to left. Students should wait for the announcement so that everyone is moving their tassel at the same time.

Regalia Worn at Graduation - Based on their accomplishments (see explanations below), students will receive graduation regalia on Friday, May 17. By the end of April, the Counseling office will confirm which items students will receive. For questions about eligibility, please contact your counselor, School Registrar, Mrs. Arling or the lead teacher for the program. * * * *Be sure to keep these items safe and secure, as there is a charge for replacements.*

SVVSD General Ceremony Guidelines:

- All graduation regalia will include a cap, gown, tassel, and stole, in colors that are consistent for each school.
- Graduates entering any branch of the military will be recognized during the ceremony by the host speaker.
- Graduates may decorate their caps with appropriate personal messages that are in alignment with the district's Code of Conduct and uphold the formal and celebratory tone of the event.
- Speakers at ceremonies may include students, teachers, or others, as determined by each individual school.

Honor groups currently recognized by St. Vrain (recognized with cords):

- National Honor Society: Gold and Blue
- National Math Honor Society: Multicolored
- National Technical Honor Society: Purple and White
- National Art Honor Society: Multicolored
- Seal of Biliteracy: Purple
- FFA Honor Society: Gold

Focus and P-TECH programs (recognized with cords, as determined by each school):

- Academy of Engineering & Aerospace (Erie)
- Biomedical Sciences Academy (Frederick)
- Energy Academy (Mead)
- High School of Business (Longmont)
- International Baccalaureate (Niwot)
- Leadership Academy (Silver Creek)
- Medical and BioScience Academy (Longmont)
- STEM Academy (Skyline)
- Universal High School (Silver Creek)
- Visual and Performing Arts Academy (Skyline)
- P-TECH programs (Frederick and Skyline)

Diploma designations and seals that may be placed on diplomas:

- Academy of Engineering & Aerospace (Erie)
- Advanced Placement Capstone Program
- Advanced Placement Scholar
- Biomedical Sciences Academy (Frederick)
- Energy Academy (Mead)
- High School of Business (Longmont)
- Leadership Academy (Silver Creek)

- Medical and BioScience Academy (Longmont)
- P-TECH programs (Frederick and Skyline)
- Seal of Biliteracy
- STEM Academy (Skyline)
- Visual and Performing Arts Academy (Skyline)

Valedictorian & Salutatorian - St. Vrain high schools recognize one student who has achieved the distinction of Valedictorian and one student who has achieved the distinction of Salutatorian.** The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be recognized at the Graduation Ceremony.

The Valedictorian is the student with the highest academic rank in the graduating class. The Salutatorian is the second highest rank in the graduating class. The rank is determined by using all grades and weight adjustments mentioned in the Silver Creek Advanced Programming and Weighted Grades section. Additional consideration may be given to students who have taken a greater amount of classes. Should there warrant a tie, co-valedictorians or co-salutatorians will be named.

- Student grades and ranks will be calculated each semester, with a final calculation occurring one week prior to graduation. A final class rank calculation will occur at the end of the semester and will appear on final transcripts.
- Being named as Valedictorian or Salutatorian does not guarantee the right to speak at Graduation. Speeches for Graduation and Senior Night are determined by a staff committee.

Minimum requirements:

- 12 or more credits must be completed at Silver Creek High School
- Not more than two credits of Passing “P” or Satisfactory “S” may be used for GPA calculation. Of these two credits, not more than 0.5 may be from a core subject. (English, Math, Social Studies, Science).
- Students using non-accredited transfer credits towards graduation will not be considered for first or second rank in the class or for Valedictorian/Salutatorian.
- Students must maintain full-time academic status, including their senior year. This requires enrollment at Silver Creek for at least three credits (6 six classes) per semester.

***The high school principal reserves the right to award more than one Valedictorian or Salutatorian for each program depending on circumstances.*

Please note that the Valedictorian and Salutatorian are not guaranteed speaking roles at either the Senior Night or the Graduation Ceremony; all students must audition for a speaking role.

Congratulations, you finished high school! What’s next?

***Diplomas** - Students will receive their diploma on May 25 with a clear plastic protector.

- * Students who do not fulfill graduation requirements by May 25, will not receive their diploma.
- Keep your diploma in a safe place.
- Scan your diploma to have it available electronically for future school & employment purposes.
- SCHS & SVVSD do not keep a copy of diplomas.
- Place your actual diploma inside the maroon bi-fold cover **with** the clear protector.
- If you did not receive your diploma, it can be picked up in the front office by Thursday, June 6, 2023. Please call (720) 494-3721 for SCHS summer office hours.

Transcripts - Print out your unofficial transcript so you have a copy for your records. Log into Infinite Campus on a computer (not a mobile device) > Reports tab.

Students need to enter their college and scholarship information into **Naviance** by Friday, May 10, 2024. Seniors' FINAL high school transcripts will be sent out by Tuesday, June 4, 2024. Transcripts will be sent to the *attending college* listed in the student's Naviance account. Colleges and universities will require graduates' final high school transcript, even if the student has already been accepted. If you need assistance, please contact your counselor. * We are aware of the issues that are occurring with FAFSA applications and how this may delay seniors' final decision on college selection. We will continue to work with students to assure transcripts are delivered to the university/college they will be attending.

To get college class credit for **FRCC** classes, students are responsible for requesting transcripts directly from those colleges to be sent to the college the student will be attending after high school.

Ordering additional transcripts:

- While the SCHS front office is still open, in-person transcript requests are available in the Counseling office.
- When SCHS is closed, transcripts can be ordered online through the district website > svvsd.org > Departments tab > Records Management > Student Records Request.
- Students needing transcripts sent to **NCAA, NAIA, etc.** notify the NCAA or NAIA and then the organization will instruct Mr. DeCamillis to forward your transcript to the receiving party.

Surveys - Throughout April and May seniors will be required to fill out 2-3 surveys. We ask that everyone complete the surveys, as they provide us with an opportunity to celebrate students, they also are a valuable tool in transcript distribution and career planning. These surveys are a requirement to complete your Graduation requirements as set forth by the Colorado Department of Education and St. Vrain Valley School District.

Honor your Raptor with a personalized brick and memorialize their Silver Creek legacy! - The Brick Buy Brick initiative enables current, past, and future members of the Silver Creek community to show their school spirit and dedication to building a lasting educational foundation. These bricks serve as a warm welcome to students, staff and visitors, and act as a reminder of the strong community that makes Silver Creek High School so special. Graduation day is just around the corner and a customized brick would make a thoughtful gift for your graduate, while supporting the valuable work of the Silver Creek Education Foundation. Order yours here: <https://brick-buy-brick-2024.cheddarup.com>

Infinite Campus, Google Drive, and Schoology access ending for Graduates and Parents - Access to seniors' IC and Google accounts will close by mid-June. Please be sure to get all the information you need prior to this date. This would include printing an unofficial transcript for your own file and saving Google Drive files and class work to a personal device. The following website details steps that exiting students should take in managing their school accounts - <https://tech.svvsd.org/support/2015/04/17/exiting-students/>.

Silver Creek High School

Front Office (720) 494-3721, Counseling Office Dial 3

Counseling

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Aaron Baskin, RaptorTech Counselor, baskin_aaron@svvsd.org
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Kristi Ehle-Parker, Interventionist, ehleparker_kristi@svvsd.org

Registrar, TBD dueto hiring

Administration

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