

PPEA CLASS OF 2019 - INFORMATION PACKET

THIS YEAR'S GRADUATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON:

MAY 11, 2019

STARKEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

8800 STARKEY ROAD, SEMINOLE, FL 33777

MANDATORY DATES AND DEADLINES TO REMEMBER -

Missing deadlines or mandatory meetings may result in the student being no longer eligible to participate in graduation. There will be no refund of fees paid.

Please put these dates on your calendar now.

January 31, 2019 - Graduation Registration Deadline

- PPEA membership completed and paid
- Graduation application completed and paid:
 - \$175.00 by November 30, 2018
 - \$200.00 from December 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019
- Graduation fee includes:
 - Cap, gown, and tassel
 - Graduation photo package from Moorman Photography
 - Reserved senior table
 - Reserved parent seating at graduation

February 28, 2019 - Program info deadline -email to ppeagrad@gmail.com

- Senior biography (145-155 words in length, Bible verse not included in word count)
- Parent charge (150 words or less, including verse)
- Graduate "Thank You" message to parents (75 words maximum)
- Five pictures for PowerPoint presentation (1 baby, 2-3 growing up, 1-2 senior)
- One senior headshot photo to be used for the biography in the program. This photo can be one of your senior shots for the PowerPoint presentation.

March 30, 2019 - Graduation Brunch Meeting, from 10:00 am -1:00 pm, location TBA

- Hand out caps and gowns
- Take senior class picture for the graduation program
- Select grad senior table - review guidelines

- Reserve parent seating
Reserved seating is for immediate family (parents, siblings, grandparents). Parents of the grad should plan to sit on the aisle because they join the grad for the presentation of the diploma and turning of the tassel. Siblings/grandparents may not join the senior on stage.

May 10, 2019 - Graduation Rehearsal, from 4:00 pm-8:00 pm, location Starkey Road Baptist Church

- Set up senior table and practice all things graduation - tables must be completed this evening and comply with guidelines
- Parents and graduate MUST attend. If you plan to be on stage then you MUST be at this rehearsal. This rehearsal may be several hours long. Siblings and grandparents will not enjoy the process so you may want to make other plans for them.
- This is a DRESS REHEARSAL! Seniors need to dress as they would for graduation. Don't forget your cap and gown.
- Students doing a talent will be asked to do a microphone check for the tech team.
- The class group picture will be taken at rehearsal.
- Grad table setup will be from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm. You have a 3 ft. wide space.
- Graduates will meet their parents on the steps to the stage. If you are not able to climb the steps please let us know.
- Bring your camera. Rehearsal and after the ceremony will be your best chance to capture your memories.
- Graduation photo etiquette:
You will not be able to take flash pictures during the actual ceremony.
You will not be able to leave your seats or stand during the ceremony (for pictures).
There will be no use of a tripod unless you stand at the back of the church.

Please note: It is not appropriate to impede the progress of our professionals. We have people every year who try to "outshoot" Rob. This could affect the quality of someone else's graduation pictures. Please tell your friends to follow the rules. Rob Moorman is our professional graduation photographer. He will take the graduation photo package. The package will include the senior class photo, a picture of the grad entering, picture of the parents and grad during the diploma/tassel moment, and candid shots. This package is included in your graduation fee.

May 11, 2019 - Graduation, from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, Starkey Road Baptist Church

- Graduates will arrive no later than 9:00 am.
- Graduates must be in the designated room (ready to go, in cap and gown) no later than 9:30. Cell phones and valuables MUST be left with your family. Do NOT leave them in the room or plan to take them on stage.
- If you plan on decorating your graduation cap you must keep all decorations on the top completely and do not have anything raised beyond one inch on it. If you have lights of any kind they must be able to be turned off during the complete graduation ceremony, and you must not be able to see any lighting cords hanging on the outside of the gown or hat.

- This is a formal occasion: Girls must have on an appropriate dress or skirt with the length not shorter than five inches from mid-knee and no longer than the hem of the graduation gown. You must wear open or closed toe dress shoes. No flip flops, No tennis shoes (Converse), no boots of any kind.
Gentlemen must wear dress shirt with tie, dark dress pants, and dark dress shoes,
No cell phones, gum, or snacks on stage. No bull horns, air horns, or loud noise makers!

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION -

Class Facebook Page

The Class of 2019 has a Facebook page: **PPEA Class of 2019**. This is a place for you all to connect during your senior year.

- Parents are welcome to join the page.
- Parents please remember that events posted on the Facebook page are not PPEA events unless the sign-up is on the PPEA website.
- Be courteous to your classmates. Sometimes you will want to have an event where everyone is welcome. Please post those on the class Facebook page! Sometimes you will want to hang with a group of close friends. Please post those on your own page or message people privately.

High School Events

Seniors are encouraged to join their classmates and friends for all high school and senior events. The more time you spend together, the more fun your senior year will be!

Honors Regalia, Invitations, Diplomas, etc.

Honors Regalia - You are not required to purchase these items. However, if you should choose to purchase, HomeschoolGradStuff.com has suggestions for what the various color cords mean.

- PPEA graduates MUST wear the official PPEA cap, gown, and tassel. These may not be substituted.
- If a student is also graduating at St. Petersburg College, they may choose to wear any honor cords they were awarded by the college.
- If a student participates in a school program, such as CHoSEN, Classical Conversations, or Welmont, the school may choose a color code of honor stole for their students to wear.
- You may use any vendor you choose for honor cords and sashes.
HomeschoolGradStuff.com is local and will be at some of our events for ease of purchase.

Invitations - You may use any invitation you wish.

- You may invite as many people as you want.
- You may want to let your friends know to arrive early.
- We will close seating areas as they fill.

- We will close sanctuary doors to seating guests as the seniors march in. So it is a good idea to be a little early.
- We need to exit the church by 1:00pm, if you wish to continue to party with your family and friends, please plan a reception at another location... and party on!

Diplomas

Your student will receive a Certificate of Participation for graduation. You may use your own diploma during the ceremony if you prefer. You may use any vendor you wish for a diploma. For example www.homeschooldiploma.com.

Talents and Speakers

Seniors are encouraged to demonstrate their talent or give a speech at the graduation ceremony. This will make the program more meaningful. Performing a talent/speech is not a guarantee. Auditions can be submitted online. There are limited spaces available, so please apply early if you are interested! To apply, please send an email to ppeagrad@gmail.com with the talent information. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2019.

We will also need the seniors to participate in:

- Opening the graduation ceremony (prayer and introduction of Chairman)
- National anthem
- Lead the "Pledge of Allegiance"
- Graduation speech

Additional Information

Senior Biography - (145-155 words in length, Bible verse not included in word count)

This is to introduce your senior. Include birth date/place, honors/awards, dual enrollment, job, special events, and future plans.

Sample Biography

Lydia Anderson was born on April 11, 2000, in St. Petersburg. Lydia treasures the little things in life such as reading classics with her family, coffee with friends, Broadway musicals, laughing till her sides hurt, getting mail, that last piece of chocolate cake, old movies, and Disney's FastPass, but most of all, quiet mornings with an open Bible on her lap. She is both a blackbelt and a ballerina, graceful yet strong, and still always running into things. She has served on two mission trips. Lydia joined the Duke TIP, Eta Sigma Alpha, and Mu Eta Alpha societies. Lydia will be attending the Honors Program at USF this fall and has been invited to the Chancellor's Leadership Council. She is double majoring in Anthropology and History. Lydia has been abundantly blessed by her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in this chapter of her life, and as she closes it, she excitedly awaits His promises ahead.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." – Jeremiah 29:11

Parent Challenge - (150 words or less, including verse)

This is a message from the parents to the senior. It may include a Bible verse or what you have prayed for your child. It may be inspirational or funny. It will be read aloud to your senior during the diploma/tassel moment. NOT over 150 words!

Sample Parent Challenge

Lydia, my verse for you comes from the book of Malachi chapter 3.

Test me in this and see if I don't open up heaven itself to you and pour out blessings beyond your wildest dreams.

We all know that you have big dreams. Your dreams will come true if you have the courage to pursue them. Live the life you have imagined. Strive for excellence and be open to the moment that is unfolding before you. Your life is made up of moments and each one will be special.

You were not made to fit in but to stand out. Let not your words and actions draw attention to yourself but to God and live the kind of life that leads others to Him. Never lose your curious, adventuresome spirit, and always try to believe in at least six impossible things every day before breakfast.

Student Tribute - (75 words maximum)

This is a thank you from the student to the parents. Please spend a few moments on writing it; your parents have invested time in your life. DO NOT ask your parents to proof it or email it. This is a surprise for them! This will be shown towards the end of the ceremony. 75 words MAX!

Sample Tribute

Every time my friends say, "Wow! You sound just like your parents!" my heart swells. You are my inspiration and the glue that holds our family together. Thank you for pushing me to reach for the stars, catching me when I fall, and reminding me to fight for the good left in this world. God knew I needed you. I hope to walk in your footsteps, for they were taken in strength and dignity.

Senior Pictures - (5 pictures)

This is an opportunity for the audience to watch the seniors grow up. Pictures need to be labeled with the senior's last name and number. Example - Smith01. You will need:

- A baby picture labeled #1
- 3 pictures of senior "growing up" labeled from youngest to oldest #2, #3, #4
- Senior portrait labeled #5

Please be appropriate in your picture choice. That naked baby picture might be adorable, but it does not belong in church.

Senior Table

You will have half of a 6ft table to showcase your senior. You will reserve your space at the Graduation Brunch.

- Most tables do not have an electrical outlet. Bring an extension cord if you need power.
- Remember you only have a 3ft. width of a table. You may want to practice setting up your table at home, so that you know where everything goes. It is not polite to "bleed over" into your neighbor's space. Do not plan on using floor space next to a table or the seating areas.
- Each table will be covered with a black plastic cover, but you may use your own tablecloth over that if you wish. Candy may be set on your table, and many seniors use a guestbook and a basket or box for cards.
- Make sure your name is on your board or table so that all of your guests will know this is your space.
- After the ceremony is over, the senior should go to the table and plan to stay there for at least 30 minutes, so that everyone can congratulate him or her. You will need to remove everything from your table and area when you leave.

Important Contacts

PPEA Chair/Co-chair	boardcontact@myppea.com
PPEA Grad Coordinator	ppeagrad@gmail.com
Photographer - Rob Moorman	cameradude1@gmail.com (727) 527-1237
Homeschool Grad Stuff - Kendel Mott	www.homeschoolgradstuff.com
Homeschool Diploma	www.homeschooldiploma.com
Other Grad Supplies:	www.hsdl.com
	www.jostens.com
	www.milligans.com
	www.jonesawards.com
	www.boxfreeconcepts.com