

Siuslaw News Coast Life

SENIOR NEWS CALENDAR

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Hats Off to our Grads

SIUSLAW HIGH SCHOOL

MAPLETON HIGH SCHOOL



Graduating seniors earn nearly \$200K in scholarships



Top, Siuslaw Valedictorian David Johnston gives his speech during graduation. Salutatorian Jonathan Griffes and Outstanding Girl Elizabeth Wartnik also spoke.



Graduates Courtney King and Taylor Graham (above), along with the rest of their class, celebrate as they leave Siuslaw High School's gym for the last time as students.

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Last weekend saw the graduation of students from Mapleton and Siuslaw high schools. Both schools featured walking ceremonies, speeches by students and community support.

It was a bittersweet graduation ceremony in Mapleton on Saturday, June 6, as 10 graduating seniors took their place on stage next to the memorial for Abigail Boydston, a senior who died last November in a car accident.

Every year, as part of the Mapleton graduation ceremony, scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors. Last year, 16 seniors received \$29,350 in scholarships. The 2013 graduating class received \$35,020; both respectable amounts for such small senior classes.

Despite its diminutive size, the 2015 graduating class blew the lid off the scholarship bucket by earning a total of \$104,097 in scholarships.

In addition, the Ford Family Foundation awarded a scholarship for an unspecified amount to cover 90 percent of unmet needs to class Valedictorian Tucker Ford, who plans to attend Oregon State University.

In all, Ford received more than \$40,000 in scholarships.

Jesse Reeves, class salutatorian, received seven scholarships totaling more than \$53,000, including a scholarship and grant from St. Johns College in New Mexico for \$43,747.

Wayne Cleary was awarded \$7,250 from eight separate scholarships.

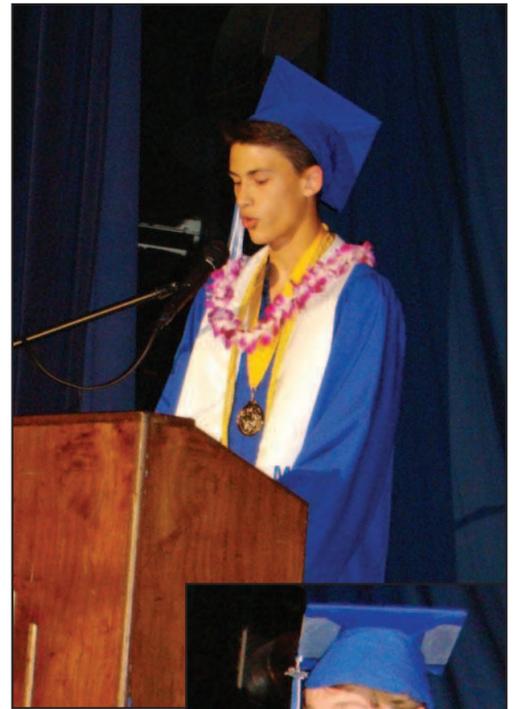
Chris Free received three scholarships totaling \$2,350, Kate Dearman was granted two scholarships for \$750 and Maddie Frelich received \$250.

"I wish each and every one of them luck as they begin their new adventure into the world," Mapleton School District Superintendent Jodi O'Mara said. "Remember, you can take the kid out of Mapleton, but you can't take Mapleton out of the kid!"

On Friday night, Siuslaw High School graduated 77 seniors during its graduation ceremony.

Valedictorian David Johnston was named Outstanding Senior Boy. Jonathan Griffes was salutatorian, and Elizabeth Wartnik was chosen Outstanding Senior Girl.

More than \$92,000 in scholarships were received by 21 of Siuslaw's graduating seniors in an award ceremony the previous week.



Above, Mapleton Valedictorian Tucker Ford addresses his fellow graduates. Salutatorian Jesse Reeves also spoke to his class.



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YELLOW
MAGENTA
CYAN