

Dear Senior Parent,

Your child is a senior, and you find yourself asking a series of new questions:

- With college applications finished, will my child be accepted to her desired university/college?
- Is my child prepared for college, the military, or the world of work?
- Will their faith be maintained, nurtured, and matured after high school?
- Did I raise him right?
- What will life become for me, for my spouse, for us together?

These questions, and countless others, can be endless, even overwhelming for parents in the senior year.

The life of your senior is changing forever, and the looming thought of such a change may be making you realize the last of many lasts at high school: the last athletic contest, the last cheer event, the last concert, the last service project, the last pep rally, the last SAT examination. The senior year in high school is a long series of farewells, and many of them can be highly emotional for parents, for there is a loss of childhood that is clearly crossed for a student just beyond the threshold of graduation.

While these “lasts” are occurring, inevitable changes looming ahead for your senior may even be provoking new distance from you or arguments with you. Unconsciously, your senior may be giving you more attitude to make it easier to leave you. It's easier for seniors to say to one another, "My family's driving me crazy. I can't wait to leave." Than to tearfully admit, "I don't know how I'm going to leave my family, my friends, and my familiar surroundings.

And, while you are thrilled for the upcoming graduation passage of your senior, the trepidation of the future looms, even amid the excitement. You stand ready to congratulate and celebrate the graduation of your child knowing you are congratulating your son or daughter for getting through what might be the easiest part of their life. As Valley Christian Schools, we believe God created transitions, and through scripture, offers us insights about how we, as the body of Christ, may enter into, and grow in and through such transitions. We want each of our parents to be filled with enthusiasm for their senior child, and to not be enveloped by the fear or frustration that can be part of this change for your family. We know being a parent of a senior presents unique challenges, and it is our desire walk alongside you, as parents of seniors, and to offer you some tips, tools, and “take-aways” that may assist you on this journey.

In this spirit, we invite every parent of a Valley Christian Schools senior another opportunity to attend a special night entitled, “Letting Go.” You will be glad you did, and so will your senior child.

The meeting takes place in the Middle School Chapel, Tuesday January 30 at 7:00 PM

We look forward to speaking with you.

Ron Taylor, Superintendent
Troy Stahl, High School Principal