



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

June 2023

SMMUSD Interim Superintendent and Board of Education's Message to Samohi, Malibu High School, Olympic High School, Class of 2023

Dear SMMUSD Class of 2023,

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

You have accepted your diploma and have crossed the threshold from high school to adulthood after many years of hard work and determination. It's an amazing accomplishment and one for which you should feel deep pride. Many of you juggled extracurricular activities, family obligations, volunteer work and part-time jobs, while completing your studies. You faced unprecedented challenges with grace, strength and resilience. You persevered and continued to achieve your goals.

Our seniors' achievements are worthy of praise. Many have received numerous awards for excellence in academics, music and arts, athletics, extracurricular activities and community service. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships have been awarded to our seniors from some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in California, across the country and abroad. Everything you have achieved both inside and outside the classroom is a result of your hard work, dedication, perseverance, and commitment to success.

Graduating from high school is a milestone because it happens only once in life. It is a time for our seniors to be proud of all that they have accomplished to reach the graduation stage. It also is a time to be thankful for the family members, teachers, mentors, classmates, friends, and everyone else who's had a meaningful role in shaping you into the person you are today.

As your interim superintendent and school board, we are incredibly proud of you. We look forward to hearing stories about your future endeavors and successes. Whether you are going on to Santa Monica College, a four-year university, into a certificate program or other postsecondary opportunity, or military, we know the Class of 2023 will make a difference in the world. We need you to make that difference for the good of all.

Work hard always, keep your sights on what you want to do in life, and always dream big. Keep reaching for the stars and know that your time at SMMUSD has prepared you for a bright future.

We wish you all the best in health and success in your future. ***Congratulations!***

Sincerely,

Mark O. Kelly, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent

Board of Education: Marian Leon-Vazquez, President; Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Vice President; Laurie Lieberman, Jon Kean, Jen Smith, Stacy Rouse and Alicia Mignano.

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Stacy Rouse • Jennifer Smith • Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

Interim Superintendent: Dr. Mark Kelly