

Creekside Senior Project 2015

Graduation Requirement

Senior Project is a graduation requirement. Every student must complete all six parts and earn at least a Basic score on each part to pass. Seniors who do not pass Senior Project will not graduate with their classmates in June.

Topic Selection

All Senior Project topics must be appropriate for a school setting. All Senior Project topics must be approved by the student's Homeroom teacher.

Time Management

Seniors are expected to use Home Room and time outside of school hours to work on Senior Project.

GRADING OF INDIVIDUAL PARTS

Topic Approval: The Topic Approval must earn a score of Approved before moving onto additional components. Once approval has been received, a Letter of Intent must be written and submitted to Homeroom Teacher for approval. This must be completed in the 1st Grading Period.

Volunteer Hours: Seniors are responsible for volunteering in some capacity within Sonoma Valley for ten (10) hours as a component of the Senior Project. Volunteer hours must be logged and signed by the supervisor of those hours on a Volunteer Hour Log. Volunteer hours should support the Senior Project Topic chosen and approved by the Homeroom Teacher. The experience of the volunteer hours will be part of the Oral Presentation as the student shares their experience with the Senior Project Oral Presentation Boards. Volunteer location and contact information will be decided upon and planned during First Grading Period. *Volunteer Mentor Form to be signed and returned during GPI.*

Research Paper: The first draft of the research paper, including the Research Page and Thesis Worksheet attached, is a part of the 2nd Grading Period Homeroom. The Final Research Paper will be completed during the 3rd Grading Period Homeroom. Both the first draft and the final draft of the research paper will be scored using the Senior Project Research Paper Rubric and will earn a score of Advanced, Proficient, Basic, or Below Basic. If the score earned on the final draft of the research paper is Below Basic, the research paper must be revised and resubmitted

until it earns a score of Basic; using daily Prime Times.

The Visual Aid: The poster will be scored by Visual Arts teacher using the Senior Project Poster Rubric and will earn a score of Advanced, Proficient, Basic, or Below Basic. If the score earned on the poster is Below Basic, the poster must be revised and resubmitted until it earns a score of Basic. Poster and any other visual aids will be created and approved during the 4th Grading Period.

The Portfolio: The portfolio will be scored by Home Room teacher using the Senior Project Portfolio Rubric and will earn a score of Advanced, Proficient, Basic, or Below Basic. If the score earned on the portfolio is Below Basic, the portfolio must be revised and resubmitted until it earns a score of Basic. All components will be compiled and organized during the 5th Grading Period.

Portfolio should include:

- Cover page
- Table of Contents
- Your completed Paper, with citations
- Volunteer Hour Sheet

The Oral Presentation: The oral presentation will be scored by the Senior Project Oral Presentation Board using the Senior Project Oral Presentation Rubric and will earn a score of Advanced, Proficient, Basic, or Below Basic. If the score earned on the oral presentation is Below Basic, the student may not graduate in June with his/her class and may have to make up this part of the Senior Project during Prime Time, until completed. Oral Presentations will be scheduled during Grading Period 5.

Please note: students who forge required signatures, commit plagiarism, or fail to successfully complete any component of Senior Project may be required to attend Prime Time Period, may lose privileges, may not graduate with their classmates, and may be required to attend Summer School.

Process Information

Choosing a Senior Project topic

1. Choose a topic you are interested in and excited about. Talk with your Homeroom teacher, family, and friends for ideas. Think about all the major parts of the Senior Project and whether or not your topic can be expanded appropriately.
2. Pick an activity related to your topic. The activity must include a, “learning stretch,” for you. You should be able to demonstrate to the judges during your Senior Project Oral Presentation what new skill or knowledge you have developed.

Senior Project Topic Approval Packet:

1. Letter of Intent
2. Parental Certificate of Understanding signature (see below)
3. Volunteer Activity Proposal and name of Volunteer ***Mentor. Mentor to sign Volunteer Mentor Agreement Form. Go to Creekside High School Student Page for additional copies of Senior Project Information and Volunteer Mentor Form as a Word Document.***

1.) LETTER OF INTENT

The Senior Project Letter of Intent is a formal business letter, written to your Home Room teacher that explains your Senior Project topic, your activity and your understanding of the consequences of plagiarism. The letter must be approved and signed by your Home Room teacher, a member of the group of teachers assembled to score the Topic Approval Packets and/or a Senior Project Review Board member.

All Senior Project Oral Presentation judges read your Letter of Intent. If there are more than 2 or 3 small errors, your letter will not be approved. You will be required to revise the letter until it is approved.

The format requirements are listed below. A sample Letter of Intent is included.

Senior Project Letter of Intent Format:

- One inch margins
- 12 point Times New Roman font

- Single space within paragraphs
- Double space between paragraphs, before and after the date, after “Dear...,” and after “Sincerely,”
- Do not indent your paragraphs in this business letter format
- Be sure to include space for your Home Room Teacher and another person to sign that they approve your topic at the bottom of the page.

Questions you should consider before you write your Senior Project Letter of Intent

- Is my topic clearly identified? Does it involve a, “learning stretch?”
- What is the expected outcome of my project?
- Is it appropriate according for a school setting?
- Will I be able to spend at least 10 hours of documented volunteer hours? Will those hours be completed prior to the Portfolio due date?
- Is my Senior Project possible? Is my Senior Project realistic?
- Did I identify potential resources for the activity?
- Will I need funding? If so, how will I secure the funds needed?
- What is the time requirement? Will I need any special time off?
- Will my project involve the school somehow (occurring on school grounds, fundraising for the school, using school equipment or affiliated with a school group)? If so, have I completed School Activity form?

Before you submit your Letter of Intent, use SPELLCHECK, then ask your Home Room teacher to proofread it, print a good quality black ink copy, and sign the letter in the space between, “Sincerely,” and your typed name.

Certification of Understanding

I have read and understand the information describing Senior Projects Requirements for Creekside High School 2015.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Susie Student
4321 Broadway
Sonoma, CA 95476
(707) 321-1234

August 19, 2015

John Teacher
Creekside High School
20000 Broadway
Sonoma, CA 95476

Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms. Jones:

Paragraph 1 – Introduction (Do not Indent / Single Spaced Paragraph)

- Describe the general area of interest of your Senior Project.
- Explain why you chose this overall area of interest.
- Describe what you already know or have done which will help you with your knowledge base.
- State the topic for your Senior Project.
- Indicate what your learning stretch will be and how you will be challenged.
- Make sure you capitalize Senior Project.

Paragraph 2 – Mentor supervised activity (Do not Indent / Single Spaced Paragraph)

- Begin with a transitional sentence, for example, “The Mentor supervised activity I have chosen to do for my Senior Project topic is,” and then describe what you will be doing.
- Describe the activity in specific terms: What is it? Who or what is involved? What is the potential cost? How you will pay for it? How much time will it take? Will you need time off from work?
- Explain what the final outcome, product, or demonstration of your Mentor supervised activity will be and why you think you will be able to complete it.

Paragraph 3 – Understanding of Plagiarism (Do not Indent / Single Spaced Paragraph)

- What is plagiarism?
- Why is it important to avoid plagiarizing?
- What are the possible consequences if plagiarism is committed?

Sincerely,
Susie Student (Cursive Signature)
Susie Student

Approved:

Homeroom Teacher Signature