## Menlo School Quick Style Guide 2021-2022

| 1 | Dates | Note: do not use superscript "th" or "st." <br> In eNotes and other email communications, use: <br> - Thursday, Dec. 20. <br> (Month abbreviations follow Chicago/MLA style so: Jan. Feb. Mar. <br> Apr. May, June, July, Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.) <br> In most documents, use the following formats: <br> - December 20; Thursday, December 20; June 30, 2015 |
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| 2 | Times | Use 8:00 pm, NOT 8 pm . Include space before am or pm (no period in am and pm ). For time periods, use hyphen with no spaces 8:00-8:30 pm; 11:00 am-1:00 pm. |
| 3 | Class year/Grades | Lowercase unless referring to a specific class as an entity: <br> - the Senior Class; the Class; 11th Grade, Class of 2021 <br> BUT <br> - freshman float; freshman parents; sophomores should go..., etc. |
| 4 | Phone numbers | Use the following format: 650.330.2000 <br> For extensions: in formal, printed publications, spell out "extension." In internal documents or email and letters, use "ext." NEVER "x". |
| 5 | website, webpage; online; email | NOT web site, web page <br> NOT on-line <br> NOT e-mail, E-mail, eMail, Email (except as first word) |
| 6 | Martin Family Hall Spieker Ballroom Spieker Center or Spieker Center for the Arts Campus Store Library MMR | NOT Martin Lecture Hall, Martin Hall <br> NOT Stent Ballroom. You can say Spieker Ballroom in Stent Family Hall. <br> NOT PAC or Spieker Performing Arts Center, or SCA <br> NOT book store or Bookstore <br> NOT just MMR |
| 7 | MSPA Upper School MSPA Middle School | Avoid US/MS acronym; NOT MS-MSPA or MSPA-US. Use "Menlo School Parent Association (MSPA)" in the first reference to get people used to the acronym. |
| 8 | Departments and titles | Capitalize department names when referred to as a department: <br> - Science; Student Life; Athletics. <br> Capitalize school titles: <br> - Head of School Than Healy; Committee Chair Sue Jones; Than Healy, the Head of School; go see the Department Chair |
| 9 | Comma in a series (Oxford comma); ONE Space after a period and ONE after a colon | Use the Oxford (serial) comma: e.g. He teaches math, science, and physics. She plays tennis, soccer, and basketball. NOT two spaces after a period or colon, NO spaces on either side of an em-dash. |
| 10 | Do NOT use "click here" | Spam filters tend to find this. Use "sign up [here]" or "see [link] for more". |
| 11 | Miscellaneous: | noun/adj: kickoff, checkout; verb: kick off, check out |

