High School Senior

…………… Student Medical Alert

What: Senioritis

When: Outbreaks usually occur in the spring. Epidemics have been reported already.

Where: Most high schools across the country.

Symptoms: Transmitted through word of mouth; highly contagious among high school seniors. The symptoms of the disease appear in early spring and may include the following: a general lack of motivation, apathy, a loss of focus and direction, and avoidance of responsibilities. Typically student absences increase and the completion of homework decreases – can also cause severe trauma and pain to the student and parent, particularly if the student is injured while skipping. Severe cases of senioritis may result in low grades, loss of credit and possible college acceptances rescinded. Critical cases may result in vandalism, practical jokes, and excessive absenteeism.

Treatment: No known cure for the disease but suggestions for treatment include primary responsibility placed upon parents to say no to any request to skip school other than those considered excused under school policy such as a medical appointment. Parent cooperation with school officials to monitor son or daughter’s attendance at school is needed for full recovery. Although sometimes painful, careful parental supervision is critical in any treatment program.

For further information: Contact your future college Admissions Office about the importance of attendance during the last semester of high school.