

March 30, 2017

Dear Parents and Seniors:

As graduation approaches we would like to take this time to finalize dates for the conclusion of the school year. Your cooperation is very much appreciated and we look forward to your participation in these activities. Parents should be aware that senior practices for the Senior Awards Assembly and Graduation are **mandatory**.

It is important for seniors to continue to work hard and attend school regularly. It is our goal to provide a program of senior activities that are memorable for their high quality. Additionally we hope that seniors find their remaining days at Pulaski County High School to be exciting, rewarding, and filled with positive experiences and memories. Please retain this letter for reference as it may serve as the **ONLY** notification of scheduled senior events.

Senior cap and gowns, announcements, and all other graduation materials ordered from Jostens will be delivered and on April 20th and 21st. All seniors who have paid their required fees will receive graduation materials on this day. All remaining balances must be paid with cash or money orders (**NO CHECKS**) on the date of delivery. Distribution will take place in the CTE Lobby during all three lunches.

Students who have achieved 3.6-3.79 grade point average will be wearing blue tassels and medallions, students who have achieved 3.80-3.99 grade point average will be wearing silver tassels and medallions, and students who have achieved a 4.00 or higher grade point average will be wearing gold tassels and medallions. The tassels and medallions will be issued during the Senior Awards Assembly and are based on GPA's through the 7th semester. Students, who believe their GPA will increase at the end of the final or eighth semester qualifying them for a different tassel, may submit a form to their counselor to recalculate the GPA.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF CAPS AND GOWNS

1. When you receive your cap and gown, remove it from the package. If wrinkles do not come out, press the gown with a **cool iron**. Your gown should be cared for carefully and should not be worn until designated times.
2. Caps are worn parallel to the top of your head, not at an angle. If needed, bring bobby pins to secure caps. Tassels are worn on the right and are not switched until you are told to do so. Whenever there is a flag salute or prayer, boys will remove their caps.
3. Girls should wear dresses or skirts and blouses under their gowns. Shoes should be flats or dress sandals. **High heels and flip flops are not permitted for safety reasons.**
4. Boys should wear dress slacks, a collared dress shirt, a necktie, socks, and dress shoes.
5. All PCHS candidates for graduation will be wearing burgundy caps and gowns.
6. **Caps and gowns are required.** Seniors who do not follow the dress code as specified will not be allowed to participate in the Senior Awards Assembly or Graduation.
7. Students who wish to donate their cap and gown back to the school may do so after graduation.

SENIOR AWARDS ASSEMBLY – May 19, 2017

All seniors will report to the Little Theatre at 8:15 a.m., May 19, 2017 for the Senior Awards Assembly. Required dress for this program will be cap and gown. Students not wearing their cap and gown will not be allowed to sit with the senior class. Students who wish to be recognized at the assembly for scholarship awards must inform Mrs. Vest by **Friday, May 5th**. Students should submit information concerning scholarships awarded by the college they plan to attend **and/or** scholarships awarded from private agencies to Mrs. Vest for recognition.

At the conclusion of the assembly, there will be a recessional directly to the stadium where the senior class picture will be taken. ****Parents: After the class picture is taken, seniors will be released from school.**

BACCALAUREATE – May 21, 2017

Baccalaureate is sponsored by the Pulaski County Ministerial Association with the ceremony at 2:00 p.m., May 21, 2017. Location for Baccalaureate will be determined at a later date. For Baccalaureate, seniors should be in cap and gown with proper attire. Participation in this event is optional.

COMMENCEMENT – May 26, 2017

****Please be advised that in the event of inclement weather, PCHS Administration will delay making the decision concerning an outdoor vs. indoor ceremony until approximately 7:45 p.m. the day of graduation. We will make every attempt to go outside, and will, even if we are experiencing light to moderate rainfall. Once outside, we will make every effort to remain there, even if we must expedite the ceremony by moving immediately to the recognition of graduates. If conditions become such that we cannot continue, we will interrupt the ceremony and reconvene in the gymnasium in approximately 30 minutes. Gymnasium seating is limited and only the ORANGE indoor tickets will be honored.*

Commencement will be held at 8:00 p.m., May 26, 2017 in Kenneth J. Dobson Stadium. **Commencement is by ticket only.** Tickets will be distributed immediately after the final graduation practice the morning of May 24th to all seniors who have cleared all financial obligations. Financial obligations include textbooks, equipment, library books, paying library fines, lost book fees, club obligations, returning uniforms, etc. (Please see Ms. Alger if you have outstanding financial obligations by May 4th) Seniors will receive **20 outdoor tickets (RED) and 6 indoor tickets (ORANGE).** **Students who owe financial obligations WILL NOT BE given graduation tickets.**

Seniors, dressed appropriately in cap and gown, should report to the Little Theatre no later than 6:30 p.m. (Please see specific requirements of cap and gown use.) Following completion of the graduation ceremony, **graduates ONLY**, will recess to the gymnasium to pick up their diplomas. Family, friends, and guests may greet the graduates in the courtyard **OUTSIDE** the gymnasium following distribution of the diplomas.

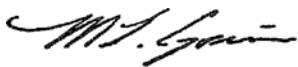
Appropriate graduation attire is to be worn without decoration or deviation from the traditional cap and gown that would draw undue attention to the individual. Only approved cords, stoles, and sashes will be allowed. Faculty members in charge will have the final decision in denying a graduate's participation due to inappropriate attire.

While participating in senior activities, please remember seniors are expected to follow all PCHS policies and regulations. Failure to do so may result in you not being allowed to participate in senior activities and/or graduation.

It is our intent that Commencement activities of Pulaski County High School be the finest in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This goal can be achieved only with the full understanding and the cooperation of the students, the faculty, and members of the audience.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Pulaski County High School, I extend sincere congratulations to graduating seniors and their parents.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Grim
Principal

SENIOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| April 10th | Commencement Speaker Applications due to Mrs. Vest. |
| April 21st | Local Scholarship Applications due to Mrs. Vest |
| April 20-21 | Distribution of Graduation Materials CTE Lobby all 3 lunches |
| April 22nd | Prom at New River Community College (8-11:30 p.m.) |
| April 27th | Faculty-Senior Basketball Game (6:00 p.m.) |
| April 28th | Notify Commencement Speaker Applicants |
| May 1-12 | A.P. Testing |
| May 4th | All Senior financial obligations MUST be paid (See Ms. Alger) |
| May 5th | Scholarship information due to Mrs. Vest for Senior Awards Assembly |
| May 12th | Attendance Appeals are due Last day to make-up ASI time for Attendance Violations |
| May 17th | Junior Marshals & Senior Assessments/Exams 1 st & 2 nd blocks Seniors report to 3 rd & 4 th blocks |
| May 18th | Mandatory Senior Awards Assembly practice 8:30-11:30 a.m. Senior Locker Clean-out by NOON Junior Marshal & Senior Assessment/Exams 3 rd and 4 th blocks |
| May 19th | Senior Awards Assembly 8:45 a.m. (cap and gown required) Senior Class Picture after assembly at the Stadium |
| May 21st | Baccalaureate 2:00 p.m. (cap and gown required) |
| May 22nd | Mandatory Graduation Practice 8:30-11:30 a.m.(Inside) |
| May 23rd | Mandatory Graduation Practice 8:30-1130 a.m. Senior Picnic 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Randolph Park Large Shelter (TRANSPORTATION NOT PROVIDED) |
| May 24th | Mandatory Graduation Practice 8:30-11:30 Graduation Tickets Dispersed Seniors Released after Practice |
| May 25th | NO GRADUATION PRACTICE |
| May 26 | Graduation 8:00 p.m. (Seniors report to the Little Theatre, properly attired and in their seats by 6:30 p.m.) |

***Seniors must participate in the four mandatory practices.

***DO NOT bring personal items/pocket books to Little Theatre the night of graduation. Students will not be allowed back into the building.