

SENIOR CEREMONIES for the CLASS of 2018

The time has come! Graduation is **Thursday, May 24th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Columbus Civic Center.**

- Graduates should be at the Civic Center IN LINE with their line captain by 3:00 p.m. at the LATEST!
- Doors open to the public once graduates and NHS staff in place.
- Students and parents should park on the left side facing the Civic Center (Parking Lot C). Parking Lot D will have an Uber/Lyft drop-off and pick-up spot.

CAPS, GOWNS, DIPLOMA COVERS, AND FEES

Everyone is required to have a cap and gown and a diploma cover to participate in Graduation. Caps and gowns may be picked up tonight in the lobby if you have already ordered and paid. The diploma covers will be presented to the students during the Graduation ceremony. If these items have not been paid for by this point, please see Mrs. Teasley *tonight*. In order to participate in Senior Week activities, a student must have paid Senior fees (\$205, covers senior activities, t-shirts, cap, gown, tassel, diploma cover). Senior fees may be paid through April 2, 2018, to Mrs. Teasley in room 402.

DRESS

At least a week before Graduation, the gown should be hung up, preferably near a shower, so that most of the wrinkles will fall out. Please be sure to follow instructions about taking care of the wrinkles that do not fall out on their own. It is very easy to burn these gowns with an iron, so please be sure to use a steamer or cool iron if necessary! Seldom is there a problem with a gown, but if there is one, the student needs to see Dr. Ginther right away in room 101.

FOR THE GRADUATION CEREMONY, the students need the following:

FEMALES:

- gown, cap, tassel
- dress OR skirt and blouse that meet the school district dress code (no strapless, spaghetti straps, or short lengths). The color of the dress or skirt and blouse does not matter, but it should not exceed the length of the graduation gown or show underneath (for example, at the collar or below the length of the gown).
- simple, black ballet flats. Any adornments should be black. Nothing showy.
- flesh-tone pantyhose or none at all
- no jewelry larger than a dime

MALES:

- gown, cap, tassel
- khaki colored dress pants
- long sleeve white dress shirt
- tasteful navy tie (NO bowties)
- dark socks
- solid black leather dress shoes, no adornments
- no jewelry larger than a dime

Failure to arrive properly dressed at Graduation will result in community service for the student. If the dress cannot be corrected prior to the processional, the student will not participate in the ceremony.

REHEARSALS and GRADUATION NON-participation

Please know that all rehearsals are mandatory. Students must stay until dismissed. A student is not required to participate in Graduation, but a written notification of such a decision for not participating in Graduation is required from the parent. Failure to attend Graduation without such notification to Mrs. Leslie Cooper by May 4, 2018 will result in community service hours assigned to the student before they will receive their diploma. You may e-mail Mrs. Cooper with this information at Cooper.Leslie.H@muscogee.k12.ga.us. **Please see the attached schedule for a list of all rehearsals!**

GRADUATION DECORUM

Muscogee County School District requires that we meet with the parents of each senior prior to those ceremonies which mark their departure from high school. We ask that you adhere to the following:

- Students are to follow all instructions of advisors throughout the practices and ceremony under penalty of community service (or other consequences) should they choose otherwise.
- All guests (of every age) must have a ticket to enter the ceremony. Eighteen (18) tickets will be issued to each student who is cleared for graduation (all books and uniforms returned, fines paid, classes passed, etc.) on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, during the graduation practice. If you feel that your family must have extra tickets, your only recourse is to have your son or daughter ask classmates if they have any that they are not using. We will not take requests for extra tickets. Please also return any tickets that are not needed to Mrs. Cooper via the main office.
- Tickets are all for the upstairs sections of the Civic Center. There are accommodations for people in wheelchairs, etc. to reach the upper level. In this case, please take the elevator and enter the center doors on the right. There will be ushers assigned to assist families who have special needs.
- We suggest that you be selective about who you invite as every individual attending must have a ticket. Small babies and children require tickets. Those given a ticket should understand that graduation is a dignified ceremony. If they applaud when their student's name is called, the next person's name is not heard which disappoints the family and guests of that student. There is an opportunity to applaud at the end of each row. Please be respectful of other families as well. Those who are disrespectful will be escorted out of the ceremony by law enforcement officials.
- Graduation will begin precisely at 4:00 pm with the processional. Any guest not in his or her seat at the beginning of the ceremony and the processional will wait until the students are inside and in place before entering and finding a seat. **Students may not join the group late.** At graduation, a chair is removed if a student is not present by the designated time, and they will NOT participate in the ceremony.
- Please be aware that balloons, horns, cow bells, and other distractions are not permitted in the Civic Center during the graduation ceremonies. Flowers are permitted as long as they will not block any person's view. Flowers are also sold outside the Civic Center.
- **When the students are issued their diplomas, we require that applause be held until the end of each row of students is called so that every name is heard.**

QUESTIONS?

Graduation Ceremony Graduation Dress Graduation Tickets Senior Week Activities (Luncheon, Rock Ranch, Class Day, Rehearsals)	Dr. Ginther at ginther.tabitha@muscogee.k12.ga.us
Senior Dues Purchasing caps, gowns, diploma covers	Mrs. Teasley at teasley.natalie@muscogee.k12.ga.us

T-shirts	
Senior Council Questions and Information Senior Week activities (Luncheon, Rock Ranch, Class Day)	Mrs. Rogers at rogers.chelsie.r@muscogee.k12.ga.us

SENIOR CLASS OF 2018: CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME AND LOCATION
Monday, April 2	Last day to pay for Senior Dues	By 4:00 pm to Mrs. Teasley (Room 402)
Saturday, April 14	Prom	8-11 pm at the Trade Center
Monday, April 16	Last day to submit pictures for the Senior Slide Show DVD	By 3:25 pm to Mrs. Killingsworth
Monday, April 30	Senior Luncheon Tickets go on sale, \$15 for a guest ticket One guest per graduate	Mrs. Teasley (Room 402)
Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5	Atrium decorations for Seniors	Friday from 4 pm to 6 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 12 pm, In the NHS atrium
Wednesday, May 9	Senior Class Meeting	In the auditorium during advisement
Friday, May 11	All textbooks, fines, uniforms, etc. due	By 3:30 pm to teachers, media center, etc.
Monday, May 14	*Top Secret* Items Due (Parents/Guardians Only)	By 3:35 to Mrs. Teasley via the front office
Tuesday, May 15	Rock Ranch Senior Picnic We will not return to Northside until approximately 4:00-4:30 pm. Students should make alternate arrangements for transportation home if they ride the bus. Students may NOT drive themselves to the picnic.	8:00 am until 4:30 pm Meet in the auditorium
Wednesday, May 16	Graduation Practice (#1) Will receive graduation tickets this day! Also: Last day to purchase Senior Luncheon Tickets!	8:10 am until finished, NHS Gym
Thursday, May 17	Class Day and Graduation Practice #2	Seniors should be in the gym by 8:10, Class Day will begin at 8:30 am, Graduation practice follows until finished
Friday, May 18	Senior Luncheon, TRADE CENTER A mandatory DRESS CHECK will take place this morning. Seniors MUST come dressed appropriately for graduation this morning (except you do not need your cap, gown, or tassel). However, you should be dressed according to the dress code for graduation as indicated in this document.	11:00 am-2:00 pm *Senior Class Council: report at 9:30 a.m.!
Monday, May 21	Senior Walk (Seniors in their caps and gowns walk the halls of North Columbus Elementary) Graduation Practice #3	Seniors should be in the gym by 8:10. The Senior Walk will take place before the graduation practice. Graduation practice follows until finished
Tuesday, May 22	Graduation Practice #4 You will need to bring a light jacket or sweater with you as the Civic Center is ice cold. No food or drink will be allowed in the Civic Center.	8:00 am at the CIVIC CENTER DO NOT BE LATE!
Thursday, May 24	Graduation Ceremony!!!!	CIVIC CENTER

		Students in lines by 3:00 pm. Doors open at 3:15(ish) to the public. Ceremony begins at 4:00 pm.
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