



# Muscogee County School District

Columbus, Georgia

## High School Graduation Information

### May 2026

### Graduation Ceremony Schedule

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2026

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Rainey-McCullers School of the Arts | 7:00 pm |
|-------------------------------------|---------|

#### Thursday, May 21, 2026

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| William Henry Spencer High School | 5:00 pm |
|-----------------------------------|---------|

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Northside High School | 8:00 pm |
|-----------------------|---------|

#### Friday, May 22, 2026

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Kendrick High School | 5:00 pm |
|----------------------|---------|

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Columbus High School | 8:00 pm |
|----------------------|---------|

#### Saturday, May 23, 2026

|                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| William Henry Shaw High School | 9:00 am |
|--------------------------------|---------|

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Hardaway High School | 11:30 am |
|----------------------|----------|

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Jordan Vocational High School College and Career Academy | 2:00 pm |
|--|---------|

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| George Washington Carver High School | 5:00 pm |
|--------------------------------------|---------|

### Graduation Rehearsal Schedule

#### Wednesday, May 20, 2026

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| William Henry Spencer High School | 8:00 am |
|-----------------------------------|---------|

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Northside High School | 11:00 am |
|-----------------------|----------|

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Kendrick High School | 1:30 pm |
|----------------------|---------|

#### Thursday, May 21, 2026

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Columbus High School | 8:00 am |
|----------------------|---------|

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| William Henry Shaw High School | 11:00 am |
|--------------------------------|----------|

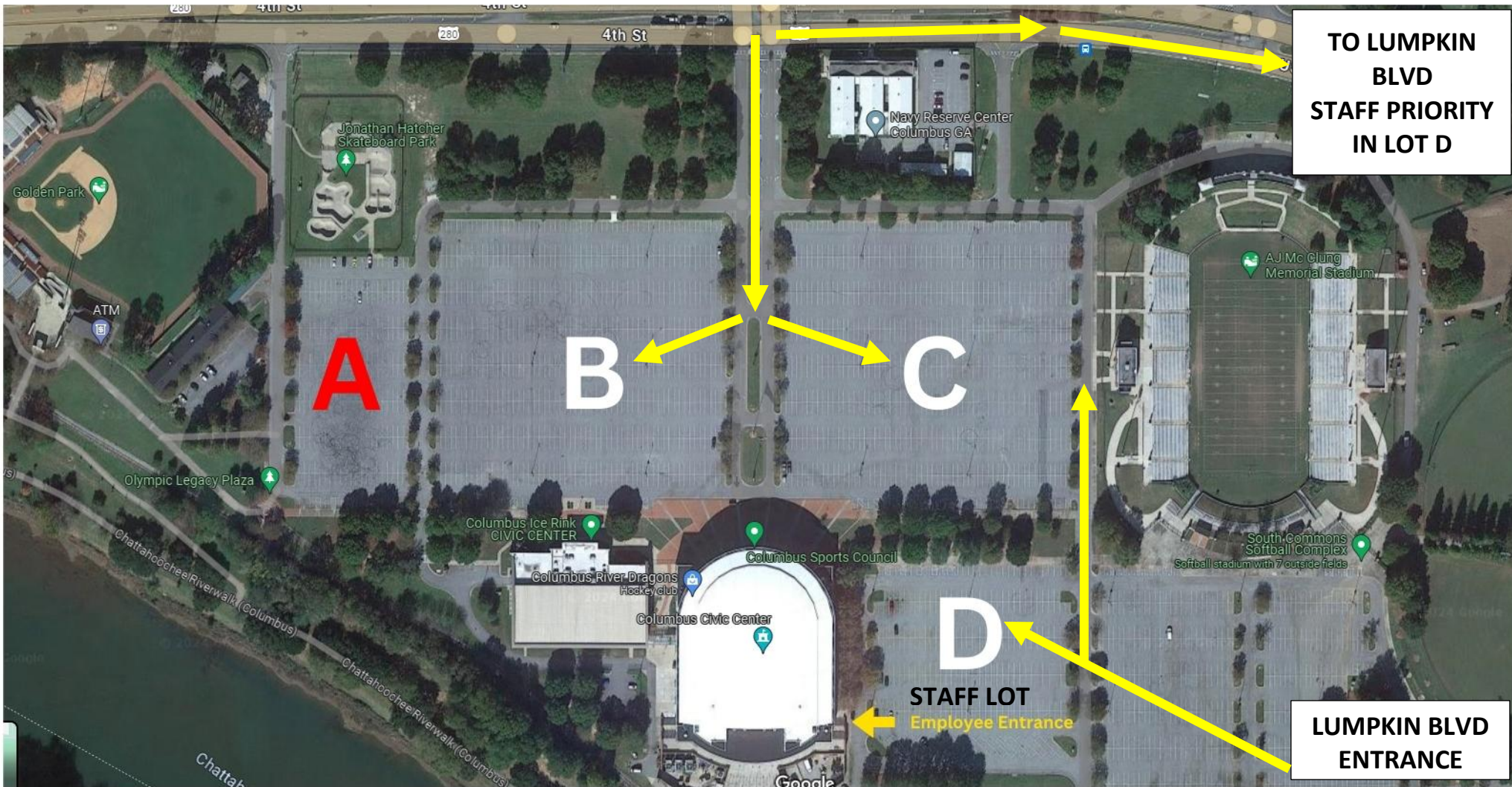
|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Hardaway High School | 1:30 pm |
|----------------------|---------|

#### Friday, May 22, 2026

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Jordan Vocational High School College and Career Academy | 8:00 am |
|--|---------|

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| George Washington Carver High School | 10:30 am |
|--------------------------------------|----------|

*All ceremonies will be held at the Columbus Civic Center  
Exception: Rainey-McCullers School of the Arts will be held at Rainey-McCullers School of the Arts' Concert Hall*



- **ALL MCSD GRADUATION PARTICIPANTS** (students, parents, staff, etc.) may enter through either the Veterans Parkway or Lumpkin Boulevard entrance.
- **EMPLOYEES** park in Parking Lot D and enter through the staff entrance. No other visitors will be permitted entrance at this door.
- **STUDENTS** will enter through the gates of the courtyard by the **Ice Rink** and stage in the courtyard until the district staff opens the doors for admittance. A sign for "Graduate Entrance Only" will be posted on the courtyard gate. Parents and guests will not be permitted past the gate.
- **GUESTS** may park in Parking Lots B and C; however, parking will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Overflow parking will be available, but guests are encouraged to carpool.



## Graduation Know Before You Go

400 Fourth Street Columbus, Georgia 31901

(706) 225-4482 Tel (706) 653-4692 Fax

- **Clear Bag Policy:** Strictly enforced at the Columbus Civic Center.
- **Prohibited Items:** No firearms, weapons, balloons, banners, noisemakers, or obstructive items allowed.
- **Security Screening:**

All guests will be required to remove items from their pockets. Small purses (no larger than 4"x6") will be subject to inspection.

All guests will be screened using a handheld wand or required to walk through a metal detector prior to entering the building.
- **No Balloons or Large Signs Allowed:** These items obstruct the view of others.
- **Seating/Parking Rules:** No saving seats or parking spaces.
- **Accessibility:** Early arrival suggested for those needing physical assistance; limited elevator access.
- **Audience Protocol:** Guests must adhere to school instructions for applause and interactions; non-compliance may lead to removal.

*The Columbus Civic Center can feel cooler due to climate control systems. Guests are encouraged to dress warmly, with layers such as jackets or sweaters to ensure comfort throughout the event.*

# MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR GRADUATION CEREMONIES



- To ensure a dignified ceremony for all graduates, guests are asked to follow the instructions from their schools regarding district protocols for applause and audience interactions during the ceremony. Supporters are asked to applaud only after each entire row has been called to allow each name to be heard. Guests who do not follow these instructions will be removed from the arena by security.
- Pictures may be taken from the individual's seat without interfering with others viewing the ceremony.
- Parents/guests will not be allowed on the floor, tunnels, courtyard, or ice rink at any time.
- Gifts and/or the exchange of items to graduates must be handled outside of the courtyard, ice rink, and Civic Center building (in the parking lot). Guests will not be permitted to bring items to graduates once the student enters these three spaces.
- Guests are asked to immediately vacate the arena following the recessional of each ceremony and to meet their graduate in the parking lot. Guests and graduates are also asked to vacate the parking lot and entrance/exit areas of the Civic Center with care and efficiency so that the next school may enter safely.
- ALL staff members must have their school IDs readily available for CC staff to check before they are allowed into the arena. School staff members will not be able to enter without proper identification.
- Every guest, regardless of age or affiliation, must have an official school-sponsored ticket to enter the arena. Badges or district identification (to include school IDs) do not serve as tickets unless the ID is for the staff member of the school graduating at that time. Schools will distribute tickets directly to their students according to their policies. Schools should reserve tickets for individual MCSD employees who request a ticket and have a school-based process for distributing the requested ticket.
- Upon arrival, graduates should already be dressed for graduation and enter through the courtyard into the ice rink for staging in the tunnels. The courtyard will be marked with a banner "Graduates Only."
- The MCSD and Civic Center staff will not open the doors for guests without all school staff members in place and without the previous school clearing the area. Guests are asked to remain patiently outside for the doors to open.
- Families are not permitted to block off seats or save them inside the arena or save parking spaces in the parking lot.
- All participants are to follow the parking guidance provided by the district. The parking instructions should be communicated by all schools. Graduation traffic may come through the main Veteran's Parkway entrance (recommended) or the Lumpkin Road entrance. Parking Lot D will be prioritized for school staff members.
- Guests who need assistance with seating due to physical constraints are encouraged to arrive early. Only a single elevator is accessible for guests who need assistance reaching the seating area. No guests will be permitted on the floor or in the tunnels of the arena.
- Graduates may only wear pre-approved regalia to include district and school-approved honor cords, graduation caps, gowns, and stoles (in original form and not altered or decorated), and school-sanctioned garments following the district dress code.