

May 23, 2019

Dear Senior Families,

Graduation for the Class of 2019 will be at LaSalle University on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 6:45 pm in the Trumark Financial Center/Tom Gola Arena. Maps and driving directions have been emailed in the weekly Seniors e-blast every week, and are also available on the CHS website.

Rehearsal Information

For students who wish to participate in Graduation, attendance at all Graduation Rehearsals is mandatory – attendance will be taken, and students who do not check in will be called at home. Students who will miss a rehearsal should forward a note to the principal's office in advance of an absence.

Students who cannot attend a practice for any reason, must have a parent or guardian contact the principal's office (215-517-3772). Upon return to school, students must provide an excuse note, signed by a parent or guardian to Ms. Jordan in the principal's office. Building Administrators will review each excuse on a case-by-case basis. Students who are late or miss the final practice on Thursday, June 6 will not be allowed to participate in the commencement ceremony unless the excuse is approved. Students who fail to attend or are late to two practices will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony. Students who are removed from practice for inappropriate behavior will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 – Graduation Rehearsal

Graduation Rehearsal will begin at 10:00 am sharp. Students should report to Stretton Hall. Dismissal should be around 12:00 pm. The **Senior Picnic** will take place after Rehearsal.

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 – Graduation Rehearsal

Graduation Rehearsal will begin at 9:00 am sharp. A full rehearsal will take place. Dismissal will be determined by the length of the rehearsal. During the rehearsal on **Wednesday, June 5** students will receive their cap and gown, if all obligations are cleared. The **Senior Walk** through the elementary schools will happen immediately after rehearsal. This is an optional activity for seniors.

Thursday, June 6, 2019 – Graduation Rehearsal

Graduation Rehearsal will begin at 9:00 am sharp. A full rehearsal will take place. Dismissal will be determined by the length of the rehearsal. During the rehearsal on **Thursday, June 6** students will each receive 6 graduation tickets, if all obligations are cleared. There are no extra tickets.

Obligations

Cap, gowns, and tickets will not be distributed to students who have not completed course requirements for graduation. Diplomas will not be distributed to students who have failed to clear their financial obligations. Students who have not completed course requirements but who have purchased a cap and gown and wish to have it, may pick it up on **Friday, June 7**. Please note that while you may have paid obligations already, teachers add end-of-year obligations – have your student check around their room for textbooks and English books – the most frequent culprits!

Commencement

The commencement ceremony will be held on **Thursday, June 6** at 6:45 pm at LaSalle University. This is the centerpiece of end-of-the-year activities for seniors. To insure the appropriate dignity of this event the following guidelines have been developed to direct the behavior of our graduates and their guests. Please review these carefully.

Guidelines for Seniors

- Graduating seniors are most certainly invited to participate in the commencement ceremony, but participation is not required to receive a diploma. Do not attend commencement if you cannot conform to these guidelines.
- Graduating seniors must be in the waiting area of LaSalle University's Hayman Hall no later than 5:45 pm on Thursday, June 6, 2018.
- Graduating seniors are expected to dress in the following manner for the ceremony:
 - Boys - long trousers, a shirt, dress shoes and socks.
 - Girls – dresses, skirts, dress pants and low-heeled dress shoes.
 - No flip-flops, sandals, hiking boots, athletic footwear or similar footwear. Any senior who dresses inappropriately will be excluded from the ceremony.
- Graduating seniors may not carry anything (flowers, cameras, etc.) into the ceremony or wear anything other than the standard cap, gown, honor cords, and tassel over their clothes.
- Only the tassel is to be worn on the cap. Nothing is to be attached to the gown.
- Disruptive behavior robs the other graduates of an appropriately dignified commencement. Absolutely no disruptions will be tolerated.

Guidelines for Guests

- No guest will be admitted to the commencement ceremony unless he/she presents a commencement ticket at the door and is dressed in acceptable attire.
- Staff ushers will fill rows with guests as they arrive. You may not save seats. If you wish to sit as a group you must arrive as a group.
- Guests are asked to remain in their seats until all graduates have completed the recessional. If you wish to take photographs, please do so before or after commencement or from your seat during the program. Please do not stand in front of others during the ceremony. We cannot allow parents to leave their seats to take photographs of their children. A professional photographer will photograph each senior as he/she receives his/her diploma. These pictures will be made available to senior families at a reasonable price.
- Please do not bring food or beverage items into the ceremony.
- Balloons ARE NOT permitted at the commencement ceremony due to LaSalle University regulations. Please leave balloons in your car until after the ceremony.
- Please hold your applause until all of the names of the graduates have been read - Each graduating senior deserves his or her moment of recognition. This special moment can be provided only by the polite attention of all participants and guests throughout the entire ceremony. We are relying on all of you to review these guidelines.

Please help us make Commencement 2019 a memorable occasion. Commencement will begin promptly at 6:45 pm. Doors open at 5:45 pm. Please plan your timing to allow for parking and seating. Staff ushers will assist you with seating.

Each member of the class of 2019 will be given six (6) tickets for commencement. There are no extra tickets. Seating will be available in the bleacher sections. Any senior who has a relative with a ticket who requires Special Needs seating should contact Ms. Diana Jordan at 215-517-3772 or djordan@cheltenham.org. It is imperative that Ms. Jordan is notified of any special seating needs by Wednesday, May 29. No requests for handicapped seating can be guaranteed after that date. This seating is limited.

Live-streaming of the ceremony will be available – the link for watching will be e-blasted to those who have signed up on the CHS website and will also be emailed to seniors at their Cheltenham gmail accounts. Please contact Ms. Jordan if you have any special concerns or problems related to the graduation ceremony or questions about other senior events. All pertinent information on graduation will also be available on the CHS Website. We are looking forward to sharing this special time with the class of 2019. I know that with your help these will be exciting, happy and fulfilling events.

Sincerely,

Raymond McFall
Principal