

NORTH HUNTERDON HIGH SCHOOL

Michael P. Hughes
Principal

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Assistant Principal

Irene Dolan
Assistant Principal



A NATIONAL SCHOOL
of
EXCELLENCE

Patricia Raleigh
Director of Guidance

John Deutsch
Director of Athletics

Michael Gleason
Dean of Students
Health/PE Supervisor

May 12, 2009

Dear North Parents, Guardians, and Seniors:

Four years at North Hunterdon High School have gone quickly. Our senior class is getting ready to graduate and go forward into colleges, specialized training, the military and the workforce. The graduation ceremony is a solemn event that marks this most important rite of passage of our students' young lives. It is my pleasure to invite you to the graduation exercises for the Class of 2009. We are proud of their achievements and will honor them as a class and as individuals on, Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at 8:00 p.m.

Senior Transition Meeting:

In order to be given a cap and gown and be placed in the Graduation lineup, all prospective graduates are required to meet with their guidance counselors for a final review to discuss their future plans and to ensure that they have met all requirements to participate in the graduation ceremony. Passes will be sent to Senior homerooms.

At this transition meeting, all seniors must be prepared to review the following items with their counselors:

- All obligations for lost books, calculators, etc., shown as "paid" by June 12, 2009
- The NHHS Graduation Contract signed by students and parents (attached)
- Appropriate dress for the ceremony
- A completed Senior Survey in Naviance, indicating the student's post-high school plans

Any senior who misses his or her appointment must set up a make-up appointment in Guidance for this mandatory counselor meeting.

Also, please be aware of the following:

- Seniors who wish to attend Graduation must attend the Graduation practice on June 16th.
- As soon as possible after the conclusion of the ceremony, new graduates should plan to proceed to the New Gym to pick up the actual diplomas to be placed in the empty diploma covers.
- Diplomas that are not picked up the evening of the ceremony will be available in the Guidance Office during regular summer office hours. Please call ahead to notify the Guidance staff when you plan to pick up the diploma from Guidance. Contact Guidance at (908) 713-4130.

We are hoping that these transition meetings will assist our students to move forward smoothly into their futures.

To Parents and Relatives:

On this special day, it is important that parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends share in the experience and recognize the graduate's accomplishment. Every family deserves to hear the name of their graduate announced. For that reason, it is necessary that parents and students hold their applause until all students have had the opportunity to be recognized. Do not bring air horns or other noisemakers to the ceremony. The ceremony is filmed, and excess noise ruins the sound quality of the video. Additionally, those who use noise makers make it difficult or impossible for other families to hear their child's name announced. Please be courteous, so that all graduates are properly acknowledged.

To Graduating Seniors:

This ceremony is a student activity, so it is not required that graduating seniors attend. We hope that you choose to participate in this once in a lifetime ceremony. However, if you intend to do anything that grabs attention away from the ceremony or the person who is receiving his or her diploma, please do not attend. Every graduating student deserves the same recognition. Every family deserves the pleasure of hearing their graduate's name read in the presence of all attending. Your consideration for all those attending Graduation is appreciated.

To maintain a professional and dignified atmosphere, graduating seniors should not be disruptive during the graduation ceremony. Distracting items such as beach balls and balloons take the focus away from the students who are receiving their diplomas. The ceremony, even though it is already a long event, will be stopped whenever beach balls or other items are thrown around. As this is a student activity, the code of conduct remains in full force. Students whose behavior impinges on the enjoyment of others will be removed from the field and will not receive their diplomas after graduation. The diploma will be held for a minimum of thirty days. After that time period is up, a conference with the student and parent will be required with the Assistant Principal before the diploma is conferred. Obviously, we hope that these measures will not be necessary and that our graduates will conduct themselves in a manner that will make their families proud.

Graduation Details:

- Those students who are not planning to participate in the graduation ceremony should notify Mrs. Tara Kraatz in Guidance by June 1, 2009.
- Students who do not attend Graduation may pick up their diplomas during the week following Graduation in the Guidance Office. Please be sure to bring a photo ID with you.
- No senior is required to take part in the graduation ceremony. However, to be included in the graduation ceremony, seniors must attend rehearsal. Attendance will be taken at graduation practice.
- Employers are more cooperative with releasing students from work to attend graduation practice when given appropriate notice. Please give employers the courtesy of notifying them soon about graduation practice.
- All outstanding obligations must be paid prior to Graduation practice. Check with Mrs. Kennedy in the Athletic Office to see if you have any outstanding obligations.
- Caps and gowns will be provided only after all obligations have been fulfilled.
- The only opportunity to receive caps and gowns is during practice. The gowns will look infinitely better if they are ironed at home before the ceremony.
- As this is a formal occasion, under their graduation gowns, ladies should wear a dress or skirt/blouse combination and flat shoes (easier to walk on the turf). No flowers, corsages, or jewelry can be displayed on the academic gown.
- Ladies should bring a supply of hairpins, tape or safety pins, as they will be needed to secure hats and/or collars.
- Gentlemen should wear dark slacks, dress shirt and tie, dress socks, and dress shoes. Do not wear shorts or jeans.

- During the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, and Alma Mater, men will remove their caps (also known as mortarboards) and put them back on at the conclusion of the music.
- Ladies wear their caps throughout the ceremony.
- As seniors go onto the field, the tassel should be on the student's right side.
- The tassel should be shifted to the left after the diploma has been conferred.
- Graduating students may not carry anything with them during the ceremony.
- Any student participating in pranks, alcohol or drug use, or inappropriate behavior will be immediately escorted from the field and not be permitted to return. This rule shall apply to the ceremony itself, the processional, and the recessional.

On June 16, 2009, at 7:45 a.m., a senior class meeting will be held, followed by a PTSA-sponsored breakfast and then graduation practice. Caps and gowns will be distributed at the end of graduation practice only to those seniors who have completed all requirements including no pending obligations, attending the Guidance transition meeting, and completing the Senior Exit Survey. A special Senior Class photograph will be taken immediately following the distribution of caps and gowns.

The graduation ceremony will be conducted on Singley Field or in the New Gym, depending upon the weather. Enclosed, find four green tickets, which allow admission to the indoor graduation ceremony or to the bleachers during the outside ceremony. The two yellow tickets enclosed are only for admission to the seating on the field during the outdoor graduation ceremony. If additional tickets are needed, students must see fellow classmates for extras. Due to limited space, all students receive only four tickets for the indoor ceremony. Please consult the North Hunterdon High School website for further information.

I look forward to seeing you on this special day!

Respectfully,



Michael P. Hughes
Principal

Attachments:

- Special needs parking/seating
- Class awards
- Ceremony information
- Senior Graduation Contract
- Graduation Tickets

SPECIAL NEEDS:

If someone in your party has mobility issues or needs special attention for seating, parking, etc., please call in advance to notify Ms. Dolan, Assistant Principal. She may be reached by email (idolan@nhvweb.net) or phone at (908) 713-4192.

PLEASE NOTE:

It is a policy of the Board of Education to recognize the valedictorian and salutatorian of the graduating class. In addition, students are recognized at the Senior Awards Program, at Graduation, and in selected local publications. Class rank, academic honors, and athletic awards may be referenced.

This information will be released without specific permission. If you wish to prohibit the release of any of this information, you may do so by contacting the Guidance Office in writing. Please specifically state what information you would like withheld.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY

GRADUATION NIGHT

Seniors report at 6:30 P.M. to the cafeterias. Line-up will begin at 7:30 P.M.

Students are reminded to be prompt. The ceremony will commence at 8:00 P.M.

When seniors arrive that evening, all parents, relatives, and friends are asked to find their seats and not visit the line-up area.

GRADUATION TICKETS

ADMISSION TO GRADUATION IS BY TICKET ONLY! Sorry, but there can be no exceptions.

In good weather: Use all six tickets: 4 Green and 2 Yellow tickets

- **The two yellow tickets are for seats on Singley Field.**
- **The four green tickets are for the bleachers.**

In rainy weather: Use only the four green tickets. The yellow tickets are invalid for indoor seating.

- **The four green tickets allow seating in the New Gym.**
- **In the event of an indoor ceremony, the two yellow tickets become void for the indoor ceremony.**
- **No additional tickets will be available due to the confined space and large number of tickets issued.**

Itinerary for Tuesday, June 16, 2009 – Graduation Day

7:45 a.m.

- By 7:45 A.M., soon-to-be graduates will arrive for the senior meeting.
- Senior Breakfast courtesy of the PTSA.
- Graduation practice
- Caps and gowns will be distributed during practice.
- Photo of members of the Class of 2009 in caps and gowns will be taken.

NOTE:

The length of practice will be contingent upon the success of the practice. The better the students perform in following directions during practice, the earlier they will be done. Students will practice in both the New Gym and on Singley Field.

Please do not schedule any appointments prior to 2:00 P.M., as this process has been known to be lengthy.

6:30 p.m.

Students return to NHHS to prepare for the graduation ceremony. Parents who accompany their graduates are welcome to find a seat in the graduation venue.

Additional parking will be available at Bundt Park and Immaculate Conception Church. Bus transportation from these sites will be available.

Note:

Please take care of all outstanding obligations as soon as possible to ensure that students receive their diplomas on time.

If you have any questions about the Graduation ceremony itself, please contact our Senior Advisors Lauren Sheldon or Erin Erwin.

Contact information – (phone) 713-4199 ext. 4306 lsheldon@nhvweb.net
(phone) 713-4199 ext. 4496 emerwin@nhvweb.net

1445 Route 31, Annandale, New Jersey 08801 - Telephone 908-735-5191, Fax 908-735-6447

www.nhvweb.net/nhhs

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to a wonderful graduation.

PROJECT GRADUATION

Students attending Project Graduation will meet in the Cafeterias after Graduation. Snacks will be served, and then the participants will head by motor coach to David and Busters in Philadelphia for a night of sober fun with their friends. Many thanks to the PTSA for all of their support.



Graduation Photos

Christmas City Studio will be in attendance at Graduation to photograph all students as they receive their diplomas. To view and purchase these pictures please go to www.christmascitystudio.com; click on Private Galleries and type in your password *nhlions* "

Graduation DVD

Lescher's Video will be filming Graduation. DVD's of the ceremony will be available for purchase. The cost is \$30 per DVD. Contact Lescher's at 205-679-7534 or 1-800-696-8050.

North Hunterdon High School

Graduation Contract 2009

I understand that my participation in the Graduation ceremony is a privilege, not a right. It is a student activity, so attendance is optional. If I choose to attend the Graduation ceremony, by checking off these items and signing the form, I am indicating that I agree to the following:

- OBLIGATIONS:** I understand that all obligations to the school for debts, lost books, etc. must be cleared by June 12th in order to participate in the Graduation ceremony. See Mrs. Kennedy in Athletics to pay any outstanding obligations.
- GRADUATION PRACTICE:** I understand that I must attend Graduation practice on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 beginning at 8 a.m. I am aware that any student not in attendance at practice cannot take part in the ceremony.
- GRADUATION ATTIRE:** Underneath the Graduation gown, I will wear appropriate clothing.
 - Graduating Men:** Dress shoes, dress pants, dress shirt, and tie.
 - Graduating Women:** Dresses or blouses and skirts with dress shoes (no purses on field).
Jeans, tennis shoes, shorts, or T-shirts are not acceptable regardless of color, style, newness or cost. (Any senior who has a question about appropriate dress should contact his/her Guidance Counselor.)
Dress will be checked prior to lineup.
- Senior Transition Meeting:** I understand that I must meet with my counselor and complete the Senior Survey in Naviance.
- SUSPENSION:** I am aware that any behavior between now and the end of the school year that results in suspension from school may jeopardize my participation in Senior Activities and Graduation.
- REMOVAL FROM THE GRADUATION CEREMONY:** Families attending Graduation deserve to enjoy the Graduation ceremony without disruption. I am aware that it is disrespectful to other students and their families to use noise makers, toss balloons around or do anything that disrupts Graduation. I understand that if I participate in any disruptive activities, such as tossing balloons around, that I will be removed from the Graduation ceremony and not allowed to return. Students who appear to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol fall under reasonable suspicion statutes. Police officers will handle this situation if need be.

Student: I have read and agree to abide by the above guidelines for Graduation 2009.

Student Name: (print legibly) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian: The above named student has my permission to attend Graduation. I have read the information above and understand the requirements for attending Graduation, including but not limited to dress code and any attempts to disrupt the Graduation ceremony. I understand that participation in Graduation is a privilege, not a right, and that students will be removed from the Graduation ceremony if their behavior is inappropriate.

Parent/Guardian Name: (print legibly) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

Turn the completed form in to your Guidance Counselor during your transition meeting.