

NORTH HUNTERDON HIGH SCHOOL

Richard A. Bergacs, Ed.D.
Principal

Gregory Cottrell
Assistant Principal

Richard Broan
Assistant Principal



Michael Squarcia
Director of Guidance

John Deutsch
Administrator/Director of Athletics

Carol Skidmore
Dean of Students/Supervisor of Mathematics

April 2016

Dear North Parents, Guardians, and Seniors:

As June 15th rapidly approaches, I am very excited about the upcoming graduation ceremony for the Class of 2016. Four years at North Hunterdon High School have gone quickly and our senior class is getting ready to graduate and move forward into colleges, specialized training, the military and the workforce. It is my pleasure to invite you to the graduation exercises for the Class of 2016. The graduation ceremony is a dignified event that marks this most important “rite of passage” of our students’ young lives. We are proud of their achievements and will honor them as a class and as individuals on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 7:00 PM on Singley Field (weather permitting). The following information is to help you navigate this process and ensure you are informed on the schedule of events.

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 students in their senior homeroom and it is important that students meet on the date/time scheduled.

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

- All obligations for lost books, calculators, etc., must be shown as “paid” by June 1, 2016
- The NHHS Graduation Contract signed by students and parents (attached)
- A completed Senior Survey in Naviance, indicating the student’s post-high school plans
- Also, counselors will review the appropriate dress for ceremony

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 15th.
- As soon as possible after the conclusion of the ceremony, new graduates should proceed to Café A to pick up their actual diploma to be placed in the empty diploma cover received during the ceremony.
- Any diplomas that are left after the ceremony will be secured in Guidance until such time as Guidance staff is available during the summer.
- Guidance may be contacted at (908) 713-4130.

We are hoping that the transition meeting will assist our students in moving forward smoothly into their futures.

For the most up-to-date graduation information, please visit:
<http://www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/home/senior-events-information-2016/>

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. All families deserve 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. Also, 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. 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 takes 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. All families deserve the pleasure of hearing their graduates' names 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 administration 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 email Mr. Tim Flynn, Director of Student Activities at tflynn@nhvweb.net, no later than May 27, 2016.
- Students who do not attend graduation may pick up their diploma in the Guidance office during the summer Guidance hours. Please call ahead of time for hours. 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 as soon as possible about graduation practice.
- All outstanding obligations must be paid prior to graduation practice. Check with Ms. Ellis in the Athletic Office to see if you have any outstanding obligations. Obligations may also be checked in ASPEN. You will find information on the "Family" top tab, then select "Transactions". Please check cafeteria obligations directly with Mr. Keith McCaffrey at kmccaffrey@nhvweb.net.
- 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 much 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 caps 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 or inappropriate behavior, or suspected of drug/alcohol use, will be immediately escorted from the field and not permitted to return. This rule shall apply to the processional and the ceremony.

On Wednesday, June 15, 2016, at 7:45 AM, a senior class meeting will be held, along with a PTSA-sponsored breakfast, followed by graduation practice. Caps and gowns will be distributed at the beginning of graduation practice only to those seniors who have completed all requirements, including attendance at the Guidance transition meeting, completion of the Senior Exit Survey, and have no pending obligations. 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, however, in the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Main Gym. Space in the Main Gym is quite limited, so we will offer additional seating in the Theatre, where the graduation ceremony may be viewed remotely. In addition, we will again offer a live feed of the graduation ceremony accessible from our website.

In the middle of May, graduation tickets will be mailed out to all senior parents. You will receive 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; this does not guarantee seats in the Main Gym so please arrive early. Please consult the North Hunterdon High School website for further information.

I look forward to seeing you on this special day and celebrating the achievements of our graduates!

Respectfully,



Richard A. Bergacs, Ed.D.
Principal

Enclosed Information:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| - Special needs parking/seating | - Graduate Lawn Sign Form |
| - Class awards | - NHEF Legacy of Learning Banner Form |
| - Ceremony information | |
| - Graduation tickets | |
| - Senior Graduation Contract | |

SPECIAL NEEDS:

If someone in your party has mobility issues or needs special attention for seating, parking, etc., please call in advance to notify Mr. Deutsch, Administrator/Athletic Director. He may be reached by jdeutsch@nhvweb.net or phone at (908) 713-4152.

PLEASE NOTE- AWARDS/RECOGNITION:

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 5:30 p.m. to the cafeterias. Line-up will begin at 6:30 p.m.
- Students are reminded to be prompt. The ceremony will commence at 7:00 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: four green and two 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 Main Gym.
- No additional tickets will be available due to the confined space and large number of tickets issued.

Itinerary for Wednesday, June 15, 2016 – 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 2016 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 Main 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.

5:30 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 the Ingersoll-Rand parking lot in Beaver Brook Concourse (entrance off Country Club Dr.) Bus transportation from this site will be available. Shuttle schedules will be communicated at a later date.

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, Rachel Wander and/ or Debbie Oliver.

Contact information – Debbie Oliver (phone) 713-4199 ext. 6387 doliver@nhvweb.net
Rachel Wander (phone) 713-4199 ext. 6168 rwander@nhvweb.net

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 Funplex 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 Event Candid's and type in the password "nhlions".

North Hunterdon High School

Graduation Contract 2016

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 1st in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. See Ms. Ellis in Athletics to pay any outstanding obligations. Checks should be made payable to **NHHS Student Activities**.
- GRADUATION PRACTICE:** I understand that I must attend graduation practice on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 beginning at 7:45 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 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 the situation if need be.
- Students who participate in pranks, fights or other unacceptable behavior in the last month of school risk being barred from the graduation ceremony.

Student: I have read and agree to abide by the above guidelines for Graduation 2016.

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** _____

Guidance Counselor Signature: _____ **Date** _____

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



2016 Graduation Lawn Sign

(colors are green and white)

Order Yours Today!

Cost: \$20 each (sign and metal stand)

YES! Please reserve # _____ lawn sign(s)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Check #: _____

(retain this bottom portion for your records)

Checks can be made payable to "The North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance" (NHMA)

Mail your Graduation Lawn Sign order form and payment to:

North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance (NHMA)

Attn: Mrs. Kerry Mueller

34 Grayrock Road

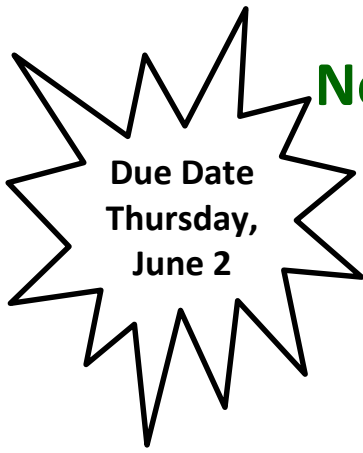
Clinton, NJ 08809

All proceeds will support the efforts of the North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance to continue providing substance abuse education and prevention programming in our community.

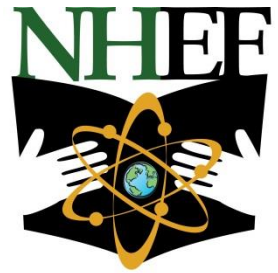
ORDERS DUE NO LATER THAN MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016

Signs can be picked up in the NHHS Athletic Office starting Monday, June 6, 2016





North Hunterdon High School Education Foundation



**NORTH HUNTERDON
HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

NHHS Seniors ... Leave a Legacy of Learning!

The Education Foundation would like to proudly display YOUR Graduate's Name (or another special graduate) at the Graduation Ceremony on our Legacy of Learning Recognition Banner for an investment of \$25.



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Yes! Please display the graduate's name!

Student's Name: _____

Address: _____

Tax-Deductible Donation

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$ _____

Check enclosed Credit Card Payment

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Can we publicize your donation on our website? Yes No

Under what name? (i.e. The Smith Family) _____

To Pay by Check, make checks payable to NHEF and mail to PO Box 488, Annandale, NJ 08801.

To Pay by Credit Card, use PayPal option on www.nhhsfoundation.org. and enter student's name in memo field.

Thank you for your support!