

NORTH HUNTERDON HIGH SCHOOL

Richard A. Bergacs, Ed.D.
Principal

Gregory Cottrell
Assistant Principal

Carol Skidmore
Assistant Principal



Michael Squarcia
Director of Guidance

John Deutsch
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Timothy Flynn
Director of Student Activities

April 2017

Dear North Hunterdon Parents, Guardians, and Seniors:

As June 15th rapidly approaches, I am very excited about the upcoming graduation ceremony for the Class of 2017. Four years at North Hunterdon High School have gone by 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 2017. 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 **Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 12:00PM 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, 2017
- 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 makeup appointment in Guidance for this mandatory counselor meeting. We are hoping that the transition meeting will assist our students in moving forward smoothly into their futures.

To Graduating Seniors:

Graduation Practice

On **Monday, June 12th**, immediately following Final Exams, all Seniors should report to Cafeteria B. There will be a brief meeting and a lunch will be provided by the Senior Class. At this time, the first graduation practice will take place, weather permitting indoors or outdoors. On **Tuesday, June 13th**, immediately following the last exam, all seniors should report to Cafeteria B for a lunch provided by the NHHS PTSA. The second graduation practice, indoors or outdoors, will take place. It is our hope that only 2 days of practice will be needed to prepare for the ceremony. If a third practice is needed, it will take place after Senior Field Day on June 14th at 12:00pm.

No senior is required to take part in the graduation ceremony. However to be included in the ceremony, seniors

must attend all graduation practices on June 12, 13, and 14 (June 14th will only be used if needed). Practice will occur immediately following the final exams from 12:30 - 3:00pm (lunch included). Attendance will be taken at graduation practice. 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, 2017.

On **Wednesday, June 14th**, caps and gowns will be distributed at 7:45am in the boys gym 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.

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.

Obligations

All outstanding obligations must be paid by June 1, 2017. Check with Ms. Ellis in the Athletics 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 the cafeteria manager, Mr. Keith McCaffrey at kmccaffrey@nhvweb.net.

Caps and Gowns and Appropriate Dress

- 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. Caps and gowns will be distributed on June 14th prior to Senior Field Day. The Class Photo will be taken at this time.
- 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 hair pins, 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.

Ceremony

The graduation 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 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 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.

Diplomas:

- As soon as possible after the conclusion of the graduation ceremony, new graduates should proceed to Cafeteria 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.
- 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.

For the most up-to-date graduation information, please visit:

<http://www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/home/senior-events-information-2017/>

To Parents and Relatives:

On this special day, it is important that parents/guardians, 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.

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. Each family 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 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, each family will 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
- Awards recognition
- Graduation Ticket information
- Ceremony information
- Senior Graduation Contract
- Graduate Lawn Sign Form
- NHEF Legacy of Learning Banner Form
- Letter, Anthony Kearns, HC Prosecutor

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. John Deutsch, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director. He may be reached by calling (908) 713-4152 or email jdeutsch@nhvweb.net.

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.

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.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY

Graduation Day

- Seniors report at 10:30 a.m. to the cafeterias. Line-up will begin at 11:15 a.m.
- Students are reminded to be prompt. The ceremony will commence at 12:00 p.m.
- When seniors arrive that morning, all parents, relatives, and friends are asked to find their seats and not visit the line-up area.
- Additional parking will be available at Bundt Park in Clinton Township. Bus transportation from this site will be available. Shuttles will start running at 10:00am in 20 minute increments until 12:00pm. Return shuttles will begin at 2:00pm.

If you have any questions about the graduation ceremony itself, please contact our Senior Class advisors, Jessica Allora and John Mattes. Ms. Allora can be reached at 908-713-4199 ext. 6386 or jallora@nhvweb.net. Mr. Mattes can be reached at 908-713-4199 ext. 4299 or jmattes@nhvweb.net.

Project Graduation

Students attending Project Graduation will meet in the Cafeterias at 7:45 p.m. 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. [Click here](#) for the Project Graduation flyer.

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".

Important dates to remember:

Senior Athletic Awards Night - Wednesday, May 31, 6:30 pm, Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

Senior Prom- Friday, June 2, 2017, 5:00 pm, The Imperia, Somerset, NJ

Senior Awards Night - Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 pm, NH Theater

CLASS OF 2017 GRADUATION CONTRACT

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 all graduation practices: Monday, June 12, Tuesday, June 13, and Wednesday June 14 (if needed.) 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. Dress will be checked prior to lineup. (Any senior who has a question about appropriate dress should contact his/her Guidance Counselor.)
- 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 needed.
- 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 2017.

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.



2017 Graduation Lawn Sign

(colors are hunter green and white)

Order Yours Today!

Cost: \$20 each (double sided sign with metal stand)

YES! Please reserve # _____ lawn sign(s)

Graduating Student's Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Check #: _____

(retain this bottom portion for your records)

Checks can be made payable to "North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance"

Mail your Graduation Lawn Sign order form and payment to:

North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance

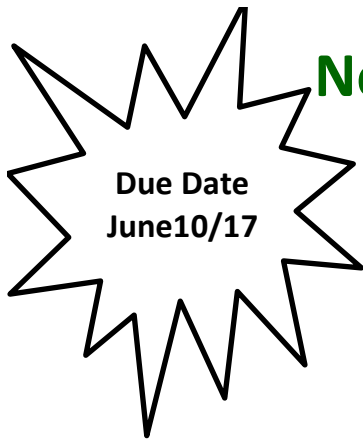
Attn: Kerry Mueller
34 Grayrock Road
Clinton, NJ 08809

Proceeds will support the efforts of The North Hunterdon Municipal Alliance to continue providing substance abuse education and prevention programming in our district.

ORDERS DUE NO LATER THEN THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2017

Signs can be picked up in the NHHS Athletic Office starting Monday, June 5, 2017





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.



Board of Trustees

- Cheryl Kuster, *Chair*
- Vigdis Austad, *Vice Chair*
- Lisa Woolhouse, *Secretary*
- Don Heard, *Treasurer*

- Dr. Richard Bergacs, *NHHS Principal*
- Joanne Coe
- Kathleen DeAngelis
- Jeannine Gorman
- Jeff Knapp
- Kristen Johnson
- Karen Kuzma
- Dina Marron, *NHHS Staff*
- Mary Obermair
- Jenny Plassche
- Ken Weiss

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!

Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor



ANTHONY P. KEARNS, III
PROSECUTOR

Justice Center, 2nd Floor
65 Park Avenue
PO Box 756
Flemington, NJ 08822-0756

Telephone 908-788-1129
Fax 908-806-4618

www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/prosecutor.htm

April 11, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The spring season has greeted us in full force, and many young people in our community look forward to proms and graduation celebrations. On behalf of all law enforcement throughout Hunterdon County, we offer our congratulations and best wishes to you and your children in anticipation of these tremendously significant occasions.

During times of celebration, it is vitally imperative that the adults of our community join together to ensure our teens' safety. The prevalence of parties will likely increase the opportunity for pressure upon teenagers from peers to consume alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs. Parents may face demands through the spring and summer months to permit underage drinking at celebrations hosted by them. It is important that all adults, including parents and guardians, do everything possible to resist these pressures and prevent underage drinking and illegal drug use.

The penal consequences for these types of illegal conduct are severe, indeed. Beyond that, the physical and psychological harms inflicted upon youthful offenders can be drastic. Add a motor vehicle to the equation and the magnitude of danger rises exponentially. Those who engage in or facilitate underage drinking or illegal drug use are taking inordinate risks and will be subject to prosecution.

It is imperative that all members of our community think and act responsibly. We must always remember that even a single instance of poor judgment can eliminate a lifetime of opportunities. So, again, congratulations and accept our sincere best wishes for continued success. This spring and summer, please be sure to take necessary steps to ensure that your child's prospects for a successful future are protected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony P. Kearns, III", is written over a horizontal line.

ANTHONY P. KEARNS, III
Prosecutor