

NORTH HUNTERDON HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Gregory Cottrell
Principal

Mrs. Carol Skidmore
Assistant Principal

Mr. Timothy Flynn
Assistant Principal



Mr. Christopher Schumann
Assistant Principal

Ms. Yulee Kim
Assistant Principal

Mr. John Deutsch
Assistant Principal
Athletic Director

April 2018

Dear North Hunterdon Parents, Guardians, and Seniors:

As June 12th rapidly approaches, I am very excited about the upcoming graduation ceremony for the Class of 2018. 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 2018. 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 Tuesday, June 12, 2018 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 May 18, 2018 and Senior Survey in Naviance, indicating the student's post-high school plans must be completed.
- 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. Also, please be aware of the following:

- Seniors who wish to attend graduation must attend all graduation practices on June 7, 8, and 11 (June 11th will only be used if needed). Practice will occur immediately following the final exams from 12:00 - 3:00pm (lunch will be provided).
- As soon as possible after the conclusion of the graduation 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.

For the most up-to-date graduation information, please visit:
<http://www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/home/senior-events-information-2018/>

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.

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 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 diploma 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. John Mattes, Director of Student Activities, at jmattes@nhvweb.net, no later than May 29, 2018.
- 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 the graduation practices. 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 May 18th. Check with Ms. Ellis in Room 239 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 Ms. Rachel Saxton at rsaxton@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. Caps and gowns will be distributed on June 11th prior to Senior Photo and Field Day activities.
- 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.
- 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 Thursday, June 7th, immediately following 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 Friday, June 8th, immediately following the last exam, all seniors should report to Cafeteria B for a lunch provided by the NHHS PTSA. After lunch, we will have our second graduation practice. 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 11th at 12:00pm.

On Monday, June 11th, caps and gowns will be distributed at the end of exams 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 in the Main Gym. Senior Field Day activities will follow and will be held on the JV Baseball Field/Soccer Field (weather permitting).

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 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,



Greg Cottrell, D.Ed.
Principal

Enclosed Information:

- Graduate Lawn Sign Form
- NHEF Legacy of Learning Banner Form
- Letter, Anthony Kearns, Hunterdon County Prosecutor
- Senior Graduation Contract

SPECIAL NEEDS:

If your family currently holds a NJ State Handicap placard numbered permit, please proceed to any handicapped parking spot. Make sure the permit is visible hanging from the rear view mirror in the front of your car. Handicapped parking spaces are located behind the scoreboard on Singley Field in the District Office parking lot. We will have golf carts to shuttle individuals needing assistance to the field.

If you do not have a state handicap parking permit and require special parking accommodations, please email Mr. John Deutsch: jdeutsch@nhvweb.net to let him know. We will call down your senior student during the school day to pick up a permit.

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 Day-Tuesday, June 12

- 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 off-site at Bundt Park. Bus transportation from this site will be available. Shuttle schedules will be communicated at a later date.

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.

If you have any questions about the graduation ceremony itself, please contact our Senior Advisors, Mrs. Michelle Byron or Mrs. Kelli Steele.

Contact information – Michelle Byron (phone) 713-4199 ext. 4511 mbyron@nhvweb.net
Kelli Steele (phone) 713-4199 ext. 6379 ksteele@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 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.

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 Candida and type in the password "nhlions".

Important dates to remember:

Senior Class Banquet – Wednesday, April 25, 6:30-9:00pm, Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, Hampton, NJ

Senior Prom- Friday, June 1, 2018, 5:00-10:00 pm, The Imperia, Somerset, NJ

Senior Awards and Athletic Awards Night - Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 6:30 pm, North Hunterdon High School Theater

CLASS OF 2018 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 May 18, 2018 in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. See Ms. Ellis in Room 239 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: Thursday, June 7, Friday, June 8, and Monday, June 11 (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 2018

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.