

GHS Senior Newsletter – Class of 2019

Dear Parents and Students of the Class of 2019:

The purpose of this Senior Newsletter is to say thank you and to help you organize your last weeks of school with your senior son/daughter. Let me start by thanking you for the support and encouragement you have given your son/daughter and our school system over the years. I would like to add that I have appreciated the leadership exhibited by our seniors this year. It is always difficult saying goodbye to our seniors and this year is no exception. Please let me know if you have any questions. Have a great ending to this senior year!

Respectfully,

Mr. Adam Lancto
Principal



Senior Year-End Calendar

Graduation Announcements and Cap & Gown

- All graduating seniors should have their senior orders. If you have questions on ordering, call Jostens at 1-800-567-8367 . **If you have not received your cap & gown please stop by the 2nd floor counseling office and pick it up.**

May 6 Senior Academic Awards Program 7:00 p.m.-HS Auditorium

- Invitations will be mailed to participating seniors.
- Participating seniors will be given their honor cords for commencement.

May 13 Senior Check-out Forms Available

- Seniors will pick up a check-out form in front of the 2nd floor office.
- Completed check-out forms must be returned to the 2nd floor office before May 17.
- Check-out includes: turning in 20 hours of community service, paying all outstanding fees/fines, returning Chromebook to the media center, returning all books, athletic equipment and band/choir/orchestra uniforms, and locker clean out. All assignments must be turned in prior to seniors' last day.
- All discipline detentions must be completed prior to check-out.
- When everything has been completed, seniors will return the check-out sheet to the 2nd floor office in order to receive their **10 tickets for graduation.**

May 13 Baccalaureate – 7:00-8:00 p.m.

- Voluntary religious program
- Held at the REZ Center at Resurrection Life Church (enter at Door “E”)
- **Attending seniors must report to the church by 6:30 p.m.**

- Graduation gowns (not caps) must be worn.
- Parents, extended family and friends are welcome.

May 14 Senior Class Picture 2:30 p.m.

❖ Geskus Photography will take a senior class picture in the VanderSlice (East) Gym at the end of the day. Seniors are encouraged to wear their senior t-shirts for the picture.

LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL FOR SENIORS

- ❖ **May 15:** 1 – 4th hr.as normal, 5th hr. (12:43-1:41) exam, 6th hr. (1:46-2:44) exam
- ❖ **May 16:** 1st– 2nd hr.as normal, 3rd hr. (10:07-11:05) exam, 4th hr. (11:10-12:38 with lunch) exam, seniors go home after exams
- ❖ **May 17:** 1st (7:50-8:48) and 2nd (8:53-10:02) hour exams, seniors go home after exams
- ❖ **May 20:** Senior Assembly – seniors must report to main gym by 7:45 a.m. All required course work must be completed by 3 p.m. on May 17 to walk at graduation.

Second Semester Senior Exam Exemption Policy: All required coursework must be submitted by 3pm on the Friday prior to the Senior Assembly in order to participate in graduation ceremonies.

Seniors are required to complete exams for each course, unless they have met the criteria for exemption based on attendance and academics.

Academics | Students must earn a course grade of **C** or better.

Seminar: Seniors must complete their **EDP** in Naviance Student.

Attendance | Students may not exceed any combination of **five (5)** tardies and/or absences (excused/unexcused/college visits/suspension)*.

Seminar: Students may not exceed any combination of **three (3)** tardies and/or absences (excused/unexcused/college visits/suspension)*.

In order to qualify for exemption from second semester exams, seniors must meet all of the aforementioned criteria. Students who do not meet all of the criteria are required to take the exam.

Please note that students who earn exemption may choose to take the exam as an opportunity to improve their grade. Students electing to take advantage of this opportunity must notify the course instructor prior to exams.

* Absences for funeral, medical, school related, and religious events are exempt from counting towards the total number of days. Documentation for exempt absences must be submitted to the Attendance Office within 48 hours of the absence.

May 20 Senior Assembly

- Seniors are to report to the VanderSlice (East) gym by 7:45 a.m. for practice. Seniors please have a seat in the gym and await instructions from Mr. Lancto.
- Assembly is from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- Graduation gowns must be worn at the assembly.
- Parents are encouraged to attend the assembly.
- Seniors are excused after the Senior Assembly.
- Seniors may go to their Elementary Schools for Senior Walk following the Senior Assembly at 10:30am.

May 23 Graduation Practice

- Graduation practice will be held at Resurrection Life Church, 5100 Ivanrest, Grandville at 10:00 a.m. (enter at Door “K”). **Seniors are required to attend practice to walk at graduation. No exceptions.**
- Practice should be done around 12:30 p.m.

May 23 Graduation – Admission will be by ticket only (each graduate will be given 10 tickets when they check-out)

Graduation will be held at Resurrection Life Church, 5100 Ivanrest SW, Grandville from 7:00 p.m. until approx. 8:45 p.m. **Seniors are to report to the church by 6:15 p.m.**

Caps & gowns MUST be worn. Handicap seating will be available for guests. As each graduate receives his or her diploma, their image is broadcast on large video screens in the church. The commencement ceremony may be viewed live online at www.reslife.org. Doors to the sanctuary will open at 6:30 p.m.

❖ Graduation Attire Under Gowns (*Dress code is strictly adhered to):

Ladies: dress or dress slacks and blouse, and dress shoes

Men: dress shirt (preferably white shirt and tie), dress slacks and dress shoes with socks

Markings on caps/gowns are not permitted. Only school issued cords are allowed.

❖ Graduation Requirements and Behavior:

Seniors must complete all academic requirements, fulfill all disciplinary and attendance obligations and pay all fines in order to participate in Commencement. Graduates in violation of the graduation dress code or with poor behavior will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony or will be removed from the ceremony. **End of year pranks are not tolerated; regardless of the intent.** Students choosing to be involved in any type of year-end prank will face disciplinary action up to and including:

- In-school suspension until May 23
- Forfeiture of privilege to participate in graduation ceremony
- Restitution for clean-up and/or damages
- Police referral

Please note! Graduation from high school is a special and serious event. Please respect each graduate as they receive their diploma. We are asking that our guests hold all applause and cheers until the entire class has received their diplomas.

- **Individual Photos:** Geskus Studios will take a professional photo of each graduate; *please do not move forward during the program to take pictures.* An order form and a proof will be mailed to each graduate.
- **Commencement Video:** Res Life will no longer be offering DVD's this year. However, a video link can be provided on request from the main office.

Senior All – Night Party May 23 (after graduation)

- ❖ This is a special event for seniors to celebrate with their classmates held at a “secret” location and organized by the Senior Party parent group. Pre-registration is required. For questions email Kristen Bentley at kris10bentley@gmail.com.

Diplomas and final grades – Report Cards

- Diplomas will be distributed to seniors at the high school when they return from the Senior All Night Party the morning of May 24. Tables will be set up in the auditorium lobby for distributing diplomas. Please turn in your gold or silver cords or pay \$10 to keep them in order to get your diploma. Gold NHS stoles and other cords that were purchased up front may be returned for a refund as well. Seniors not attending the Senior All Night Party may pick up their diploma in the 2nd floor office beginning Friday, May 24. Please make every effort to pick up your diploma by June 6, 2019.
- **Final grades will be available through the portal until June 30. Updated transcripts will be updated on Parchment.com by June 19.**

Important Information Regarding Seniors and Attendance:

Please remind your son/daughter of Grandville High School's expectations for attendance. Seniors may not participate in the graduation ceremony if they fail to attend all classes on a regular basis up to May 17. The administration may remove graduation privileges for any student who fails to earn credit in any class due to attendance. **All absent and tardy detentions must be completed by May 17, 2019.** If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Mr. Nguyen at 254-6433.

Final Transcripts & Senior Exit Survey:

Most colleges require a **final transcript** to verify academic progress and graduation. Seniors must go to www.parchment.com and request their **final transcript** be sent to the college they will be attending. This is free until July 31, 2019. After that, Parchment will charge you **\$3.75. Please change the email address, in your Parchment account, to your personal email or a parent email when you login. Student school email addresses only remain active for 1 year after graduation and then will be disabled.** Seniors will be asked to complete an exit survey through Naviance at school regarding their plans for the future. They should list the college they plan to attend, scholarships received, or which branch of the military they enlisted in (if military, please provide written documentation in order to be recognized at graduation).

Yearbook Information

If you have not ordered your senior a yearbook yet go to the following link before your senior's last day: http://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1064236/Grandville-High-School/2018-Yearbook/20170613043115547145/CATALOG_SHOP/?REF=A03754700

to order or contact Mrs. Peterson (yearbook@gpsbulldogs.org) in room 178. Yearbooks ordered at the end of the year are \$80.56 and will include the highly recommended senior shipping.

Yearbooks will only be shipped home in September IF shipping was purchased. If not, yearbooks can be picked up near the end of September at GHS. Notices will be mailed out reminding students to pick up the yearbook before early January. Please mark your calendar to pick up your yearbook if you do not pay to have it shipped home.