

BRANHAM HIGH SCHOOL



CHERYL LAWTON
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April 27, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians of a 2018 Graduate:

The countdown has begun. The Class of 2018 and the faculty and staff of Branham High School cordially invite you to the Commencement 2018 scheduled for Thursday June 7th 2018 at 5:00 pm at the Branham High School stadium. We look forward to sharing this milestone event in your graduate's education.

The enclosed material should provide you with the necessary information required for the closing of the 2017-18 school year and the following activities:

- Junior/Senior Prom (Saturday, May 12th, 7pm, → Silver Creek Country Club)
- Senior Awards Night (Wednesday, May 21st, 6pm, → Branham Gym)
- Senior Final Exams (Thursday, May 31st, Friday, June 1st)
- Senior Sunset (Wednesday, May 30th, 7:30pm, → Branham Football Field)
- Graduation Ticket Distribution (Wednesday, June 6th → Graduation Rehearsal)
- Graduation Rehearsal (Wednesday, June 6th, 8am, Branham Football Field)
- *NOTE: Participation in Rehearsal is MANDATORY for participation in the ceremony*
- Graduation Ceremony (Thursday, June 7th, 5:00 pm → Branham Football Field)
- Grad Night (Thursday, June 7th, 8:15 pm → Branham Parking lot? → Commodore Cruise)

For your convenience, this packet has information about important events for graduating seniors. Please note that only students who have completed all requirements for graduation and attend the entire mandatory rehearsal on Wednesday June 6th will be able to participate in the ceremony. Graduates must return all books and clear all bills by Tuesday June 5th. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$2 each in the student store starting May 18th. Any extra tickets will be for sale at the gate on June 7th.

As the parking will be very limited, we are encouraging all those attending the ceremony to carpool. We ask that graduates please arrive with their families rather than in their own vehicles. The gates of the field will open at 3:45.

We have engaged the service of Lifetouch Photography to take professional photos of all graduates as they receive their diplomas. Order forms will be provided to seniors on graduation rehearsal day. Parents and guests will not be allowed on the field to take pictures. We also ask at the conclusion of the ceremony that families remain off the field.

During the final days we request that seniors stay away from campus unless there is a scheduled event. In the past, some schools have experienced dangerous or damaging incidents thought of as pranks. Regardless of whether the intent is harmless, there are often costly results. The school will not condone such behavior and like other schools in the district, the campus will have extra security. Those who

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choose to ignore this expectation are subject to school discipline, including possible loss of privilege to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Please note: As of the date on this letter, if your child disobeys any school rules during any scheduled senior or graduation activities, or is suspended from school for any reason, your child may be withheld from participation in any future senior or graduation events, including the graduation ceremony.

It is our desire that this special occasion be a dignified and joyous celebration of the high school experience. Our message to each graduate will be that of respect, to classmates, friends, family, and community. We welcome you and ask for your support in meeting this goal.

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance with our final activities and events. If you have any questions after you read through the attached information, please contact us at your convenience.

Critical Dates:

Deadline to return the signed Senior Contract: **Friday, May 4th**
Grad Night payment and permission form, last day for turn-in: **Wednesday, May 23rd**
Graduation Rehearsal- MANDATORY to participate in the Ceremony: **Wednesday, June 6th**

Sincerely,

Cheryl Lawton
Principal
clawton@cuhsd.org
408-626-3407, x7101

Christina Hillman
Activities Director
chillman@cuhsd.org
408-626-3407, x7130

IMPORTANT SENIOR INFORMATION

Senior Speech Sign-Ups: April 30th, 2018-May 4th, 2018, Mat 11th, 2018

Location: Main Office

Time: 7:30-4:00

General Information: Sign-up in the main office, prepare a speech for graduation (1-2 minutes long), auditions will be on May 11th at lunch in the Main Office Conference Room.

Prom: May 12th, 2018

Theme: Enchanted Forest

Location: Silver Creek Valley Country Club

5460 Country Club Pkwy,

San Jose, CA 95138

Time: 7pm-11pm (check in from 6:30-8:00)

Ticket Sales: April 30-May 4th, \$100 with ASB, \$105 without. May 7th-11th \$125 with ASB, \$130 without.

General Information: Appetizers, desserts and unlimited soda, iced tea, lemonade and water will be provided. Tell the gate attendant you are there for Branham Prom and park near the clubhouse. Carpooling recommended, parking is limited.

Seniors vs. Faculty Softball Game: May 18th, 2018

Location: Baseball Field

Time: Lunch (extended)

General Information: Permission slip attached, all Seniors are welcome to participate. Please turn in permission slip to Coach Jacobs by May 11th at the end of lunch. Bring athletic gear and your own gloves and bats.

College Commitment Day Ceremony: May 22, 2018

Location: Quad

Time: Lunch

General Information: Wear your college gear, take photos with your college logo, come to the quad and sign the commitment poster.

Senior Awards: Wednesday May 23rd, 2018

Location: BHS Main Gym

Time: 6pm

General Information: Invitations sent out 4/30-5/1, RSVP by . Dress is business casual, Please see Ms. Perez with any questions.

Senior Sunset: May 30th, 2018

Location: Branham Football Field

Time: 7:30pm

General Information: food will be provided as well as various activities. Come hang out together and watch the sun set.

Senior Final Exams: May 31, 2018-June 1st, 2018

Seniors will be taking their final exams on the Thursday and Friday before the last week of school. The last week of school will instead be comprised of a variety of celebratory activities. Students must remain in good standing in order to participate. (See Senior Contract.)

Senior Beach Day: June 4th, 2018

Location: Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk (meet at Branham to take bus)

Time: bus leaves at 8:00am and returns around 4:00pm

Ticket Prices: \$40 = bus + all day rides pass at the Boardwalk

\$15 = bus only

*TICKET SALES MAY 7TH-24TH

General Information: **Must turn in your money and permission slip signed by your parent to the student store by 5/24.**

All students planning to attend are required to take the bus both to and from the Boardwalk and are not allowed to drive themselves. Students going to Santa Cruz must be signed up to be on the trip and cannot go to Santa Cruz on their own. Students are required to remain on the Boardwalk property and adjoining beach during the day. As this is a school trip, school rules are in full effect while on this annual outing.

Senior Brunch: June 5th, 2018

Location: Branham Cafeteria

Time: 9:00-11:30

General information: All seniors attend, no tickets necessary. Food will be provided. You will receive your freshmen letter to self and there will be several other activities.

GRADUATION INFORMATION

Graduation Practice: June 6th, 2018

Location: Branham Football Field

Time: 8:00am

General Information: Adjust your work schedule accordingly. Bring sunblock and water. Attendance will be taken. **All graduates MUST attend and be ON TIME in order to participate in graduation.**

Graduation Practice: June 7th, 2018 (only if needed)

Location: Branham Football Field

Time: 8:00am

General Information: Adjust your work schedule accordingly. Bring sunblock and water. Attendance will be taken. **All graduates MUST attend and be ON TIME in order to participate in graduation.**

Graduation: June 7th, 2018

Location: Branham Football Field

Graduates Arrive: 3:45pm, assemble in the gym and pass through security check. East gate to stadium opens. No entrance to stadium prior to 3:45.

Commencement Begins: 5pm

IMPORTANT GENERAL INFORMATION: Link to select staff member handing you your diploma: <https://bit.ly/2FkwAoW>

Graduation Caps Do's and Don'ts:

Decorating your cap is a privilege, not a right. If you violate these guidelines, you will be stripped of the privilege of wearing a decorated cap.

- Celebration of high school ending (example: Momma we made it!)
- Declaration of next step (example: Marines, Technical School, College)
- Any other approved idea (example: Thanks mom and dad!)

It cannot have:

- Offensive images/sayings
- References to drugs/alcohol
- Anything that goes against dress code

If you are unsure as to whether your cap is appropriate, see Ms. Hillman in the Activities Office

- Caps must be approved by Senior Brunch (June 5th)
 - ◆ If a cap is deemed inappropriate, you will be stripped of your rights to wear a decorated cap and will have to wear a blank one. Students will be responsible for purchasing a new cap. Depending on the situation, you may be able to earn the privilege back by getting a new idea approved that day.
- CAPS WILL ALSO BE PRE-SCREENED BEFORE WALKING (June 7th)
- **If a cap is deemed inappropriate at this time, you will be stripped of your privilege to walk.**

Graduation Expectations

The Class of 2018 has achieved much success. In an effort to make our graduation dignified and memorable it is imperative that each graduate adhere to the following policies and expectations.

1. **Graduation Dress Code**

- All graduates participating in the ceremony are expected to wear a Branham cap and gown. These are available for check-out at no charge to the student provided the deadline to order is met.
- Graduation caps that are purchased by the graduate and not the property of Branham *may be* embellished, provided that the student receives pre-approval from the Activities Director, Ms. Hillman (see graduation cap decoration guidelines).
- Graduation gowns cannot be altered or embellished in any way.
- Gold Cords and sashes, etc. that are pre-approved by Activities Director may be worn. Leis are the only exception.
- Failure to be properly dressed, will forfeit the invitation to participate in the ceremony.

2. **Graduation Ceremony Expectations:**

Non-compliance with any of the following will warrant the immediate **removal** of the graduate from the graduation ceremony due to potential interference with the decorum of the ceremony.

- The only items that may be carried out to the field during the ceremony are water bottles
- Cell phones or other electronics must remain off and out of sight during the graduation ceremony.
- Dignified behavior is expected at all times. (Throwing of objects, beach balls, etc. or engaging in inappropriate loud outbursts are not considered dignified behavior.)
- All graduates are expected to adhere to the Discipline Guideline in the BHS Parent/Student Information Handbook.
- ***If a senior is on social probation for tardies or truancies, she or he may be ineligible to participate in any of the remaining senior activities for the school year.***

REMINDER TO FAMILIES: No strollers, umbrellas, shade structures, noise makers, or balloons will be allowed in to the ceremony. The Performing Arts Center will be available for any guests who need to get away from the sun or heat.

Grad Night: June 7th, 2018

Location: Commodore Cruises

Time: 10:00pm-5:30am

General Information: See PTSA information at the end of this packet

BRANHAM SENIOR BEACH DAY

Monday, June 4, 2018

Location: Santa Cruz beach Boardwalk. There will be at least one chaperone on each bus. All chaperones will be present during the entire trip. Please bring change for a locker if you need to keep your belongings in a safe place.

Food: Please plan to bring a lunch or some money to buy lunch at the Boardwalk.

Price: \$40 includes bus and an unlimited rides wristband. -OR-
\$15 includes bus only (No rides pass)

Transportation: Under no circumstances may anyone drive to the beach. All signed-up students must check-in to the cafeteria at 8:30am in order to receive your boarding pass. You must go and return on the same bus. Busses will pick us up in the large parking lot at the south end of the Boardwalk, near the river, at 3:45pm. Start walking to the meeting spot at 3:30.

Special Rules: Beach Day is a school-sponsored activity, thus, all school rules apply. Your participation in the graduation ceremony could be jeopardized for not following rules.

Stay in the Boardwalk area. This is the area from the Boardwalk to the ocean and from the river to the wharf. Do not go on the wharf and do not cross Beach St.

Please encourage your outside friends, especially Branham freshmen, sophomores, and juniors NOT to attend YOUR Beach Day. Any seniors who show up to Santa Cruz that are not signed up may not be allowed to walk at the graduation ceremony.

Never enter the water without a "buddy" and be particularly aware of the dangers of bodysurfing. The renting of surfboards is not allowed.

This permission slip must be signed and turned in no later than May 24. No exceptions!

Student Name _____

I give permission for my student to go on the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk trip with the Branham High School Senior Class on Monday, June 4, 2018. Round-trip transportation will be provided by school bus. Students must meet in the cafeteria at 8:30 am. Make sure you are on time because we will not hold the busses. The time we will be back on-campus at Branham High School is 4:30 pm.

Please remember that all school bills must be paid before a student may participate in any senior activities including Beach Day and graduation. Check in the Book Room regarding school bills.

NO STUDENTS MAY DRIVE THEMSELVES! THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS! Driving yourself to Santa Cruz may result in removal from the graduation ceremony.

In the case of a medical emergency, I also give permission for medical treatment of the above named student.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Phone Number _____

Student Cell Phone _____

SENIORS VS. STAFF SOFTBALL

May 18, 2018 @ Extended Lunch

Waiver Due: First 27 turned in to the Athletics Office no later than May 11th at lunch - NO EXCEPTIONS

PARENTAL CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

Name: _____

Activity: Senior / Staff Softball game

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Work Phone: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____

By its very nature, the Senior/Staff softball game, including practices, may put students in situations in which serious catastrophic and perhaps fatal accidents may occur. Students and parents must assess the risks involved in such participation and make their choice to participate in spite of those risks. No amount of instruction, precaution, or supervision will totally eliminate the risk of injury. Just as driving an automobile involves the risk of injury, participation in the Senior / Staff Softball Game by high school students involves some inherent risk. The importance of your awareness of these risks in determining whether or not to allow your child to participate cannot be overstated. There have been accidents in baseball and softball elsewhere resulting in death, paraplegia, quadriplegia, and other very serious permanent physical impairments as a result of athletic participation.

Students will be instructed in proper techniques and in the proper utilization of all equipment or work used in practice and competition. Students must adhere to that instruction and utilization and must refrain from improper uses and techniques.

No amount of instruction, precaution, and supervision can eliminate all risk of injury, including serious injury. Some of the injuries/illnesses which may result from participation in these activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Sprains / strains | 7. Loss of eyesight |
| 2. Fractured bones | 8. Communicable diseases |
| 3. Unconsciousness | 9. Internal organ injuries |
| 4. Head and neck injuries | 10. Brain damage |
| 5. Neck and spinal injuries | 11. Death |
| 6. Paralysis | |

By signing below, you acknowledge that you understand and accept such risk and authorize the student named above to participate in the Senior/Staff softball game. By choosing to participate, you acknowledge that such risks exist.

I authorize my son/daughter, _____, to participate in the District sponsored activity of Senior/Staff Softball.

I have read this form in its entirety and understand its contents. I understand that it is my obligation to ask questions about anything I do not understand.

I understand and acknowledge that participation in Senior / Staff Softball is completely voluntary and as such is not required by the District for course credit or for completion of graduation requirements.

I agree to assume financial responsibility for any medical costs and expenses incurred as a result of any injury that may be sustained by my child while participating in Senior / Staff Softball.

I understand, acknowledge, and agree that the District, its employees, officers, agents, or volunteers shall not be liable for any injury / illness suffered by my child which is incident to and / or associated with preparing for and / or participating in this activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION FORM and that I understand and agree to the terms.

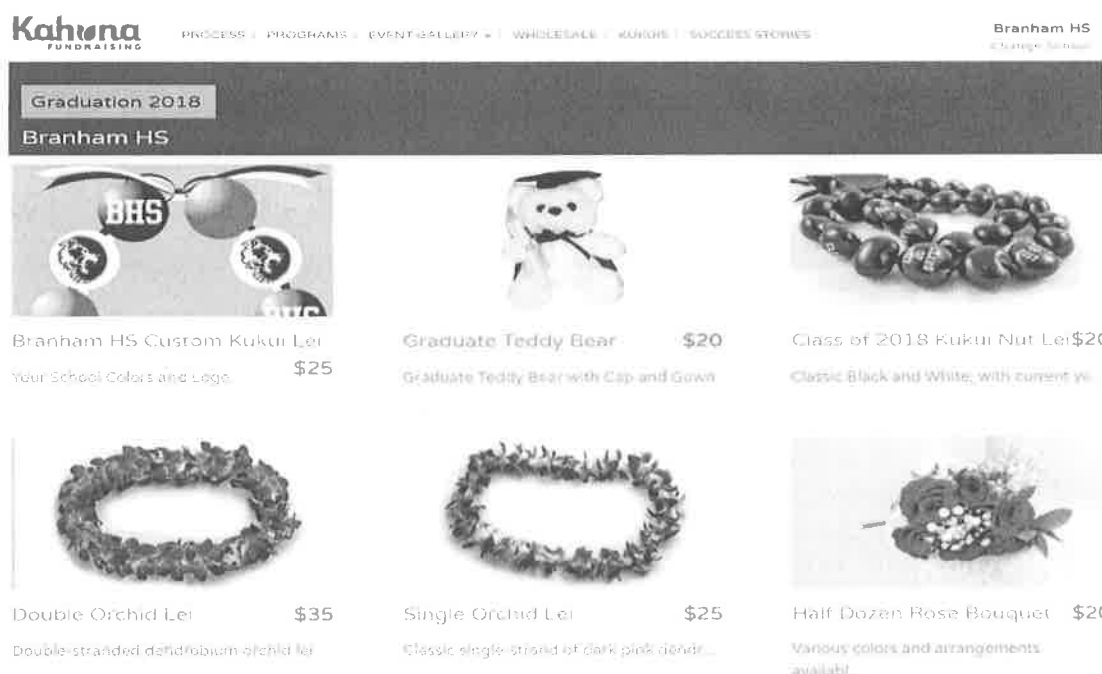
Parent / Guardian

Date

Graduation Leis!

Leis add wonderful festivity to a graduation ceremony! They are commonly presented when someone is arriving and leaving, so it's no surprise that leis are given to graduates as they are leaving school and arriving at a new stage of life.

The PTSA's Grad Night committee is making it easy for you to order Orchid Leis and Kukui Nut Leis (non-perishable keepsakes).



The screenshot shows the Kahuna Fundraising website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'PROCESS', 'PROGRAMS', 'EVENT GALLERY', 'WHOLESALE', 'KUKUI', and 'SUCCEED STORIES'. The page title is 'Branham HS' and the sub-header is 'Graduation 2018 Branham HS'. Below this, there are six product listings:

- Branham HS Custom Kukui Lei**: \$25. Description: Your School Colors and Logo.
- Graduate Teddy Bear**: \$20. Description: Graduate Teddy Bear with Cap and Gown.
- Class of 2018 Kukui Nut Lei**: \$20. Description: Classic Black and White, with current year.
- Double Orchid Lei**: \$35. Description: Double-stranded dendrobium orchid lei.
- Single Orchid Lei**: \$25. Description: Classic single-strand of dark pink dendrobium.
- Half Dozen Rose Bouquet**: \$20. Description: Various colors and arrangements available.

Order online using the [link](https://www.kahunafundraising.com/sc/Branham-HS-1242b.html) below and your order will be ready & waiting for you at Branham prior to the graduation ceremony!

<https://www.kahunafundraising.com/sc/Branham-HS-1242b.html>

Don't wait!! Deadline is June 2nd!

Questions?? Contact Lara Stowers: stowers@sonic.net or Barbara Dieker bsarnoffdieker@yahoo.com

Fundraising proceeds from the Lei sale will help fund Senior Grad Night.

*Would you like to sit in the
BEST SEATS at graduation?*

If you answered "yes" the PTSA's Grad Night committee has an offer you can't refuse! We are auctioning a few select pairs of **VIP seats**.

VIP seats are extra special because they are on the field and closest to students and the podium. Accompanying each pair of VIP tickets is one reserved parking spot in Branham's parking lot.

Avoid the rush and the scramble of finding parking and seats on graduation day and get some great pictures of your graduate!!

Go to: <https://www.32auctions.com/VIPgradseatsBranham> and place your bid. First VIP auction closes on May 3rd, last VIP auction will close on May 13th.

***Not interested in VIP Seats
but don't want to hassle with parking?***

We are selling 65 spaces in a small reserved section of Branham's parking lot for \$40. Take your time getting to the ceremony because your parking will be guaranteed!

Go to: <https://www.32auctions.com/VIPgradseatsBranham> and click on the "Reserved Parking" item and buy-it-now!

All 65 seats will be sold on a first-come first-served basis! Don't wait!!

Questions??

Contact Lara Stowers-Norman: stowers@sonic.net Barbara Dieker bsarnoffdieker@yahoo.com

All proceeds from VIP seat and parking sales will help fund Senior Grad Night.



BRANHAM GRAD NIGHT



Celebrate your Graduating Class aboard a luxury yacht, cruising the spectacular San Francisco Bay!

Night of Graduation
Thursday, June 7, 2018
10:00pm - 5:30am

Deadline is fast approaching...
Last Chance to buy tickets is May 23rd!

Don't be left behind...

All required forms are in the office or online:
www.branhampts.org/branham-high-grad-night

Return your completed contract, waiver and cash/check/online receipt to office.
If you have already bought tickets online, you still need to bring in the signed contract/waiver before May 23rd.

Questions??

Contact Lara Stowers: stowers@sonic.net Barbara Dieker bsarnoffdieker@yahoo.com

Financial assistance may be available for qualified Branham Seniors. For more information, please inquire at the Branham main office to obtain an Economic Hardship Application.

The Grad Night committee is holding a fundraiser at Chipotle on Blossom Hill/Almaden Expy on Monday, May 21st! Order food between 4pm - 8pm and half of the proceeds will go directly to help fund the Grad Night celebration!

Print the form below and bring it with you, or show it on your mobile device, or simply mention the Branham fundraiser before paying!

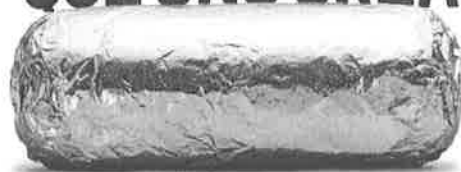
Thank you for your support!

CAUSE AN EFFECT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support **Branham's Grad Night**. Come in to the Chipotle at **1110 Blossom Hill Suite 30** in San Jose on **Monday, May 21st** between **4:00pm** and **8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Branham High School PTSA.

EL CAMBIO QUE UNO CREA



Haz que la cena sea un acto generoso uniéndote a nosotros en un evento de recaudación de fondos para apoyar a **Branham's Grad Night**. Acude al Chipotle en **1110 Blossom Hill Suite 30** el **Monday, May 21st**, entre las **4:00pm** y las **8:00pm**. Trae este volante, preséntalo en tu teléfono o dile al cajero que estás apoyando la causa con el fin de asegurar que el 50% de los ingresos se done a Branham High School PTSA.



Online orders will not be included in the fundraiser total. To ensure your purchase is counted in the fundraiser, be sure to order and pay in-restaurant. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.



Si realizas una orden en línea durante el evento de recaudación de fondos, ten en cuenta que debes elegir la opción de pagar en el restaurante e informar al cajero de tu participación antes de pagar. Las compras de tarjetas de regalo durante los eventos de recaudación de fondos no cuentan para el total de ventas donadas; sin embargo, las compras realizadas con una tarjeta de regalo existente sí cuentan.