

Belle Chasse High School

Class of 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

As graduation approaches, there are dates and events of which students and parents need to be aware. Please read the following to find out when and where your senior needs to be for which event. This information will also help if your senior works and needs to request time off from work to attend all events. Graduation practice and Senior Award's Day are **MANDATORY**. Mrs. Carlone is the only one who can waive this requirement, and then only under exceptional circumstances. Please don't schedule trips or anything else on these days.

GRADUATION FEE

The school requires a \$50 graduation fee for all participants. This money is used to rent the Alario Center and all the assorted expenses associated with the event. If your senior purchased a bundle at the beginning of the year, then this has been covered. If not, the deadline to pay is April 17th, 2020 if paying by check and May 13th, 2020 if paying by cash/money order. All financial obligations to the school must be paid before seniors will receive their admit tickets to graduation.

GRADUATION PRACTICE

Graduation practice is **MANDATORY**. All students must attend graduation practice on Thursday, May 14th, 2020 in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. To ensure that everyone gets there at the correct time, we are providing bus transportation for the practice. We insist that **ALL** students ride the bus to practice. We will have buses in the front of the school and ready to leave at 8:30 a.m. Please be here by 7:45 a.m. **IF YOU DO NOT RIDE THE BUS AND ATTEND PRACTICE, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICPATE IN THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.**

Also please remember that this practice is a school function, and school uniforms are required. Baseball caps and food are NOT allowed. **Boys must be clean shaven.** Students will be required to follow school uniform and behavior policies, which will be strictly enforced. **Cap and gown will be given out after practice.**

Return time is approximately 12:00p.m. Parents are **NOT** allowed to attend graduation practice.

Cell phones are not allowed. Please leave them in your car.

AWARD'S DAY

Award's day is Friday, May 15th, 2020 in the school auditorium at 9:00 a.m. This is a **MANDATORY** event. All graduating seniors must be at school by 8:00 a.m. The seniors will be wearing their graduation gowns and white stoles, but not their caps. Girls will wear a dress under their gown (no pants), and black shoes. Boys will wear black pants, black or dark brown shoes (dress shoes, no tennis shoes), and a white, collared button- up shirt (no pullover shirts) with a dark tie. **Admit tickets to graduation will be given out after the Award's Day program.**

It is important that everyone adheres to the dress code. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Cell phones are not allowed. Please leave them, as well as any purses or bags, in your car.

GRADUATION

Graduation is Tuesday, May 19th at the Alario Center.

Graduation will begin at 7:00 p.m. All seniors are to be at the Alario Center no later than 6:00 p.m. There will be no guests allowed into the facility before 6:00 p.m. **SENIORS ONLY!** The doors will open at 6:00 p.m., for first-come-first-serve seating. The doors will be locked at 6:55p.m., to allow the seniors to enter. They will not be reopened until all seniors are seated. At that point, guests will only be seated upstairs. Also, **there is no readmit.** If you leave, you will need a new ticket.

Video cameras will not be allowed in the Alario Center to keep the aisle clear for safety purposes. The Alario Center requests that we enforce this, and we will comply. We hope that you understand that we cannot accommodate everyone who would like to stand in the aisle to film. Anyone filming will be asked to leave. This includes filming from the seating areas as well.

We do not encourage or allow the saving of seats.

Cell phones are not allowed. Please leave them in your car.

DRESS REGULATIONS FOR AWARD'S DAY AND GRADUATION

Boys will wear a white collared shirt, dark tie, and black dress pants under their cap and gown. Black or dark brown shoes are required (no tennis shoes). **Boys needing to shave or without a tie will be asked to leave.**

Girls are to wear a dress under their gown (no pants). Girls are to wear black shoes with the cap and gown. **Purses-** there is no place for them, please lock them in your car.

Boys/ Girls: There will be no facial piercings or any alterations to your cap and gown.

You will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony if you do not abide by these rules.

Any guest with air horns or noise makers will be asked to leave. This event is a dignified ceremony.

STARTING TIME

It has always been the policy of BCHS to begin graduation on time. We ask that you be seated by 6:50 p.m. because the center aisle belongs to the graduates and not late- arriving guests. All doors will be locked at 6:55 p.m. when graduation begins. All late arriving guests will have to wait outside until the senior procession is completed.

The Alario Center **does not allow helium balloons** in the building. All balloons will be confiscated by the security guards at the entrance to the auditorium. This is to keep the air conditioning vents from being blocked.

Handicapped seating is available for handicapped individuals and one or two family members.

ADMIT CARDS

Graduation is by admit card only! These will be given out after the Award's Day ceremony. There are no extra admit cards! The number of cards will be determined by the number of graduates. Please do not call and ask for extras. We thank you for your understanding. Also, no one will be admitted to the Alario Center without an admit card; this includes all age groups, even babies.

SCHOLARSHIPS

If a senior was offered any scholarships, please send a copy of the award letter to the counselors' office no later than Friday, May 3rd. The school usually does not receive notification from the colleges. Therefore, if you want the scholarship recognized, it is your responsibility to submit a copy of the award letter.

We hope that this information will answer some of the many questions both parents and students have about graduation and other events. Congratulations to both parents and students, and we look forward to making your graduation a successful one.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. James Richards at jrichards@ppsb.org.