



BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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Belleville, New Jersey 07109
hs.bellevilleschools.org



Mr. Caleb Rhodes
Principal

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June 15, 2018

Dear Families of the Class of 2018:

The time you have all been waiting for is upon us! Graduation this year will be held on June 22, 2018, at 7 PM on the field at Belleville Municipal Stadium. We at Belleville High School want to make your child's ceremony a pleasant event, one that you will all cherish and remember. Attached you will find important information regarding your child's upcoming graduation from Belleville High School.

Please make sure you read the entire packet carefully with your child and follow all of the directions.

****Please be advised: Receipt of this packet does not necessarily mean your child is definitely going to graduate. As of this date your child is classified as a "Candidate" for graduation. A final graduation list will be available the last week of June.**

Sincerely,

Mr. Caleb Rhodes
Principal, Belleville High School

Dear Families and Members of the Class of 2018

It is with a sense of pride that we at Belleville High School present the **Class of 2018** to the future. We hope the education you received from this school district serves you well throughout your life. The Administration and Faculty of Belleville High School wish you the very best life has to offer.

Since the graduation ceremony is the culmination of your child's educational experience in the Belleville School System, we, the Administration and Faculty of Belleville High School, expect nothing less than his/her finest effort on the evening of graduation. Our students deserve a graduation ceremony that is dignified and memorable. The following guidelines explain what is expected of our graduates:

PLEASE NOTE:

- No HIGH HEELS of any kind will be permitted on the football field.
- Absolutely no noisemakers are permitted by students, relatives, guests or friends at any time.

The administrator in charge will have the final decision denying a graduate participation due to inappropriate attire. Please do not put yourself in a situation where you are denied participation.

The possession or use of alcohol, a controlled-dangerous substance, narcotic and/or other illegal drug or drugs before, during, or after the commencement on the graduation site will not be tolerated. Failure to comply will result in the follow:

- Exclusion from the ceremony
- Postponement of receipt of high school diploma, pending a review of the incident
- Notification of law enforcement officials

It is unnecessary to itemize the kinds of negative behavior unacceptable at the graduation ceremony. Any behavior, which draws attention to you as an individual or detracts from the dignity of the ceremony itself, will result in your exclusion from the ceremony.

Graduation is Friday, June 22, 2018 at 7:00 PM, rain or shine.

- If inclement weather exists, families can check the Belleville High School website (<https://hs.bellevilleschools.org/>), the BHS Twitter account (@HS_Belleville), or the BHS Instagram feed (@BHS_BUCS) after 4:00 PM on Graduation Day to confirm the commencement exercise location.
- Excessive cheering and other outbursts are in poor taste and this behavior is strongly discouraged. You could be subject to removal from the ceremony
- No noisemakers of any kind are permitted
- Please plan to remain seated and stay for the entire ceremony
- After announcing the name and recognizing the last graduate, each row of graduates will stand and pass to his/her left or right to a designated area

Outdoor Ceremony Information:

- In order to provide for the safest, most comfortable and accessible place for graduation, the outdoor ceremony will be held at the **Belleville “Doc Ellis” Municipal Stadium**
- Students will receive ten tickets for an outdoor stadium ceremony during senior clearance on June 20th
- Each person wishing to gain entrance to the graduation will need to produce a ticket at the gate. **Individuals without tickets will not be permitted to enter the stadium**
- Main entrance to seating will be through the Nolton Street entrances and the Belleville High School’s side parking lot entrance
- All Belleville High School graduates will be required to assemble at 6:00 PM in the Belleville High School gym in order to prepare for graduation
- There will be a brief time at the conclusion of the graduation program for parents/guardians, family and friends to congratulate the graduates

Indoor Ceremony Information:

- If the ceremony is moved indoors, it will be held in the Connie Francis Theater
- Students will receive a total of four tickets for an indoor ceremony at senior clearance on June 20th. In the event of inclement weather, two tickets will be used to gain access to the Connie Francis Theater (noted on the ticket), and two additional tickets that can be used to watch the ceremony on closed circuit TV in specific HS classrooms. If students lose the tickets at any point, no additional tickets will be issued
- Graduation Commencement can also be watched from the comforts of home via WBHS Channel 34
- During the ceremony, visitors/guests and/or spectators are **asked not to** stand in the aisles.
- You are **not** permitted to use any cameras in the aisles
- All aisles must be kept clear as per fire regulations
- If any visitor/guest does not adhere to these rules – they may be asked to leave the ceremony.
- All Belleville High School graduates will be required to assemble at 6:00 PM in the Belleville High School Gym in order to prepare for graduation
- There will be a brief time at the conclusion of the graduation program for parents/guardians, family and friends to congratulate the graduates

Students attending “Project Graduation”:

- Must report to the Belleville High School Gymnasium for attendance purposes after the ceremonies are completed
- Students attending the “Project Graduation” party cannot leave the designated area located next to the gymnasium for any reason or go to their vehicles at any time

Diplomas:

- Authentic diplomas can be picked up on Monday in the high school main office, beginning on June 25, 2018, at 8:00 AM. Please be advised, only the graduating student may pick-up his/her diploma, no exceptions!

Senior Clearance:

- Senior Clearance will take place on June 20, 2018, at 8:00 AM in the Connie Francis Theater.
- All outstanding fines will be collected at this time (paid either cash or check and a receipt will be issued)
- Caps and Gowns will be disseminated to graduating seniors at a cost of \$20.00. Please be advised that checks will not be accepted for Caps and Gowns, only cash

- At approximately 10:00 AM, all graduation students will board the school bus for their final senior walk through the halls of a district elementary school. This is an opportunity for your child to leave a positive impression of the young minds of Belleville youth
- The FBLA will accept donations of clean school uniform shirts during this time.

Rehearsals:

- Outdoor and indoor graduation rehearsals will be conducted during the morning of June 21st and June 22nd at 8:30 AM. Students must be in the Gym by 8:15 AM to participate in the practice

On a personal note, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the **Class of 2018** for making my first year as the Principal of Belleville High School a very rewarding experience for me! Congratulations!!