

April 2019

Dear Senior Parents,

Graduation from Centreville High School is fast approaching, and we are putting the finishing touches on the graduation ceremony to ensure that it will be a dignified and memorable event for your family. This letter will provide you with important information regarding the ceremony and other Class of 2019 events. Please keep this letter to refer to in the coming weeks.

Graduation will be held on Friday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the George Mason University Eagle Bank Arena located at 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax, VA 22030. Our graduation speaker will be Mr. David Jagels, Executive Principal, Region 5.

Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions regarding Graduation:

Before Graduation Day:

Convocation and Senior Cookout: Convocation is on June 4 at 10:00 a.m. in the CVHS auditorium. Convocation is for senior students only. The Senior Cookout follows Convocation.

Student Debts: Parents, please note that all student debts your student may have incurred from 9th through 12th grade must be paid prior to graduation. Lists of students who owe past debts will be posted in the Subschoools and Library. Students or parents may contact the Subschoool administrative assistants to determine the amount owed to Centreville High School. Debts are payable in **cash only** at this time. Debts should be paid to the student's Subschoool no later than May 24. Students are responsible to resolve any debts. Caps and gowns will not be given to students who have not paid their obligations.

Mandatory Graduation Rehearsals: All students are expected to attend graduation rehearsals on both **June 5 at 9:30 am and June 6 at 10:00 am** in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students having conflicts with participation in these events should submit a request for exemption in writing to Graduation Coordinator, Ms. Barham at debarham@fcps.edu no later than May 24. Only students having emergency situations will be exempt from rehearsals. The faculty members reading student names will be verifying the pronunciation of student names.

On Graduation Day:

Arrival and Parking:

Graduates should arrive by 6:00 p.m. Eagle Bank Arena will open at 6:30 p.m. for audience admission. Graduates and parents are not allowed to be on campus earlier than 5:30 p.m. Families requiring **handicapped parking** should go to the South Entrance upon their arrival where they will be directed to an appropriate parking spot.

Eagle Bank Arena has asked me to remind you that traffic is especially bad during graduation season. They suggest that you allow plenty of time to get there, to park, and to choose a seat. The doors to the Eagle Bank Arena will open at 6:30 p.m. for family and friends who want to attend the ceremony.

Handicapped/Hearing Impaired Seating: Handicapped seating is provided on Rows E, F and G throughout the arena. Family members in wheelchairs may sit in one of the four portals allowed for this purpose, but may be accompanied by only one other family member. People having specific questions about handicapped seating, parking, or services for the hearing impaired should contact Ms. Barham at CVHS by May 20. Ms. Barham's e-mail address is debarham@fcps.edu. A sign language interpreter will only be scheduled if requested through Ms. Barham. If someone needs hearing impaired services, the best place to see the sign-language interpreter is seating in Section 118, Rows BB and CC.

General Seating: Tickets are **not** required for audience seating and there is no maximum number of guests. All students will recess from the arena to the North Entrance (this is a change from previous years) and this will be the best place for family members to find their graduate after the ceremony. The most accessible parking will be at Parking Lot K.

Student Dress: Students are expected to dress appropriately for the graduation ceremony. The young women should wear light colored dresses and the young men should wear dress pants (no jeans allowed), shirts and ties. All should wear dress shoes; athletic shoes or casual sandals are not appropriate. Ladies should consider when selecting their shoes that they will walk up steps, across the stage and down steps at center stage. Students who are not appropriately dressed will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students are not permitted to decorate their graduation caps with lettering or messages. Also, please make sure that your student does not bring a cell phone, or any other electronic devices to the graduation ceremony. These items will be collected before the ceremony and returned to the high school for pickup the next school day.

Graduation Protocol: At the request of the Superintendent and Fairfax County Public Schools, we remind you that graduation is considered a ceremony and not a celebration. The celebration occurs after the ceremony. There will be a conscientious effort by the Eagle Bank Arena Security Staff, Fairfax County Police and Centreville High School Security to eliminate all noise makers (air horns, clappers, megaphones, etc.) and all balloons and/or other inflatable devices. Any persons disrupting the ceremony, including graduates and/or graduation attendees, will be removed from the arena by uniformed personnel.

Graduation Etiquette

1. Do not bring ANYTHING in your pockets to graduation, other than a car key. Cell phones, keys, cameras, must be surrendered to security staff when you get in line. Items will not be returned until the NEXT day at CVHS, and not on graduation day.
2. You are expected to remain seated until your row is called. Any misbehavior will not be tolerated. You will be escorted out.
3. Noise makers/streamers of any type are not allowed among the graduates or the audience. They will be confiscated.

Centreville High School has a reputation for conducting one of the most dignified ceremonies in FCPS. Please help us to keep that reputation intact. Our students have earned the right to have a dignified and distinguished ceremony. We greatly appreciate your support.

Professional Photographs and Videography: There will be professional photographs and video taken during graduation. The Photographer and Videographer information will be available on the senior

website on our school homepage and in the graduation program. For relatives who may not be able to attend graduation, a private live stream is available for a fee. For further information, go to www.memoriesvideography.com or contact Ricky@memoriesvideography.com. Everyone will be photographed receiving their diploma, and pictures will be available ten days after the ceremony at events.lifetouch.com.

I want to thank the many senior parents who have helped us this year in a variety of ways, including hosting senior breakfasts, picnics and working on the All Night Grad Party. This spirited class has appreciated the generosity and care that our wonderful senior parents have shown them.

Please feel free to call at 703-802-5412 if I can answer any questions you might have regarding graduation. A copy of the Countdown Calendar is enclosed for dates and times of senior events.

Thank you,

Alexis Wenzel

Class of 2019 Countdown Calendar

April 25

Auditions for musical performances during graduation. Sign up outside room 203 if interested.

April 26

Submissions due to be considered for scholar speaker. Limited to seniors with a GPA of 4.0 or higher. Submit your speech to <https://forms.gle/jH39X2QXyf24mnsM8>. Writers of the top speeches will be notified by the end of the day on Monday, April 29, via @fcpschools.net email about an audition time to deliver their speech after school on Tuesday, April 30.

April 30

Auditions for the scholar speaker.

May 1

Are you accepting an ROTC scholarship, enlisting in the Military or attending one of the United States Military Service Academies next year? Please see Ms. Stamper in the Career Center by May 1st, so that we can place you on the recognition list.

May 22 – 30

Prom Tickets on sale during all lunches in the cafeteria – MUST be debt-free (does not include senior dues) – parking tickets, previous years' textbooks, library fines, etc.

May 23 @ 5:30

Scholars Dinner (invite only)

Senior Awards (Invitations will be sent to award winners)

May 29

Senior Exam Periods 5 & 7. Full day for seniors.

May 30

Senior Exam Periods 4 & 6. Full day for seniors.

May 31

Senior Exam Periods 1 & 3 (** Exams during 1st and 2nd blocks; seniors released at 11:10)

June 1 @ 8:00 PM

Junior/Senior Prom at the Reston Sheraton

June 3

Senior Exam Period 2 (Seniors released at 9:45)

June 4 @ 10:00 AM

Senior meeting and Convocation in auditorium

Senior cookout following Convocation

June 5 @ 9:30 AM

Mandatory graduation rehearsal in CVHS gym. Cap & gown distribution; last chance to clear student debts.

June 6 @ 10:00 AM

Mandatory graduation rehearsal in CVHS gym.

Graduation Walk at elementary schools at 2:00 PM. Seniors walk at the elementary school they attended. Schools participating are Bull Run ES, Centre Ridge ES, Centreville ES, Powell ES and Union Mill ES. A Sign Up Genius will be posted on May 15.

June 7 @ 6:00 PM***GRADUATION!***

Graduates meet at the loading dock on the South end of the Eagle Bank Arena. SENIORS ARRIVE AT 6:00 PM. Entrance doors open to guests at 6:30pm. Ceremony begins at 7:30pm. After ceremony is over, all students will exit from the NORTH Exit. PLEASE arrange a meeting place with your family AWAY from the exit to make it easier to meet and leave together.

June 7-8, 11:30 PM – 4:30 AM

PTSA Sponsored All Night Grad Party at Centreville HS

STAY INFORMED BY VISITING THE SENIOR PAGE ON THE CVHS WEBSITE at <https://centrevillehs.fcps.edu/ClassOf2019>.