

Vernon Malone College and Career Academy



Senior Booklet



March 29, 2017

Dear Graduating Senior,

I know it's hard to believe that Graduation is almost here, and I know how excited you must be! During the next few weeks of school, you will likely experience a range of emotions from excitement to worry as your high school career draws to a close. You will participate in the senior activities that occur during the coming weeks. You will also be full of anticipation pondering the many opportunities opening for you once you graduate and leave Vernon Malone.

On behalf of the faculty and staff, I want to congratulate you on successfully completing your studies here at VMCCA. It is our sincere hope that the education you have received at Vernon Malone College and Career Academy has prepared you for success in college and/ or career.

Again, congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Ashlie Thompson, Ph.D.
Principal

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GRADUATION SENIOR BOOKLET

Vernon Malone College and Career Academy

This Senior Booklet has been prepared for you, a graduating senior, and your parents in an effort to help you to coordinate your time and responsibilities for your senior activities.

CLASS OF 2016-2017 SENIOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

Anna Populorum, *Student Body President*
Tamia Hicks, *First Vice President*
Allison Pauletic, *Second Vice President*
TyQuann Sanders, *Senior Class President*
Amber Harrington, *Senior Class Representative*
Chandler Collins, *Senior Class Representative*
Angel Hunter, *Senior Class Representative*

CLASS OF 2016-2017 ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Ashlie Thompson, *Principal*
Mr. Mitch Weaver, *Assistant Principal*
Ms. Laura Pierrie, *Administrative Intern*

SENIOR CLASS ADVISOR

Ms. Shanora Kingsberry

SENIOR CLASS COLORS

Red and Silver

IMPORTANT DATES

Senior Picnic	April 28, 2017
Block Party	May 12, 2017
Senior Awards	May 19, 2017
Final Exams Start	May 23, 2017
Final Exams End	May 30, 2017
Graduation Rehearsal	May 30, 2017
Graduation	May 31, 2017

Senior Awards CEREMONY

PLACE: VMCCA Gym

DATE: May 19, 2017

TIME: 8:30 AM

All seniors are invited to attend this event. Seniors who are receiving recognition during the Senior Awards Program need to report to the Gym by 8:00 A.M. Seniors should plan to wear their graduation gown. Please see below for proper attire. If a senior receiving an award is not planning to attend, he or she should inform Student Services as soon as possible. Seniors may invite parents/guardians to attend the program.

Attire for Awards

MEN: Wear dress shoes (no Top Siders, sandals, flip-flops or tennis shoes), dress socks, dress trousers (no jeans), dress tie, and a white or light blue dress shirt. Do not wear jeans or shorts. Anything that shows through the gown will detract from the ceremony.

WOMEN: Wear dress shoes (no casual sandals, flip-flops or tennis shoes). Be careful not to wear too high of a heel. Wear either dress slacks and blouse, skirt and blouse, or dress. The dress or skirt should show below the hemline of the gown.

Block Party

PLACE: Vernon Malone College and Career Academy

DATE: May 12, 2017

TIME: 3rd through 4th periods

The annual block party is a year-end celebration that allows us to highlight and celebrate student successes that have happened throughout the year. This year we will be celebrating our survival despite a tough year. We will highlight our determination, teamwork and perseverance despite the flood of 2016.

During our celebration students will hear from a guest speaker, and 9th and 10th grades will interact with juniors and seniors to observe their accomplishments in their Wake Tech classes.

In the afternoon we will celebrate in a typical Block Party fashion. We will have food trucks, DJ, activities and games for all students to participate in. The goal of our block party is to celebrate, and also connect as a school in a team building experience.

Graduation Rehearsal

PLACE: Duke Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts – Meymandi Theatre

DATE: Tuesday, May 30

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

All graduating seniors must be at the Duke Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts – Meymandi Theatre on Tuesday, May 30, by 9:30 A.M. **DO NOT BE LATE.** We only have a certain amount of time allotted in Meymandi for our rehearsal before another school is scheduled to rehearse.

When you arrive at Duke Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, there are several parking options. There is on –the-street parking as well as parking lots. Expect to have to pay for parking. **DO NOT PARK IN THE MCDONALD’S PARKING LOT.** You will be towed. After parking, please report to the main waiting area inside Meymandi, staff will direct you where to go. Please report to the designated area to receive instructions for the processional.

Please pay close attention to the instructions given so that we can make the rehearsal short and pleasant. During the graduation rehearsal, we will line up graduates for the processional, practice the processional, practice the receiving of diplomas, and practice the recessional.

Seniors, Graduation is May 31st at 10:00 am at Duke Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts - Meymandi Theatre. Graduation Rehearsal is Tuesday, May 30, from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. also at Meymandi Theatre. In order to make the Graduation Ceremony memorable, it is mandatory to be at Graduation Rehearsal to participate in the Graduation Ceremony.

Graduation tickets will be distributed during the rehearsal. Each graduating senior will receive eight (8) tickets for graduation. There are **NO** additional tickets. If you need additional tickets, please ask your fellow graduates if they have extras that you could have.

TO PARTICIPATE IN GRADUATION CEREMONY, SENIORS MUST ATTEND THE GRADUATION REHEARSAL.

Graduation Exercise

PLACE: Duke Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts – Meymandi Theatre

DATE: Wednesday, May 31

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

All graduating seniors must be at the Duke Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts – Meymandi

Hall on May 31 , at 9:00 A.M. After you have parked your car, report directly to the designated area. There are to be absolutely **no seniors outside of the designated areas prior to graduation.** All seniors are to be in his/her assigned area preparing for the processional.

Attendance will be taken. Once attendance is checked, remain in your space in the processional line. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PROCESSIONAL LINE OR DESIGNATED AREA.**

The processional will begin promptly at 10:00 A.M.

Following the ceremony, graduates should report back to the designated holding area to receive their diplomas. Once you have your diploma, immediately exit Meymandi into the front courtyard. Should a student behave inappropriately during the ceremony she/he will have to pick up her/his diploma from Dr. Thompson at a later date at Dr. Thompson's convenience.

Graduation Reception

PLACE: Vernon Malone College and Career Academy Commons Area

DATE: Wednesday, May 31

TIME: Immediately following the Graduation Exercise

Seniors and their guests are invited to attend a parent-sponsored reception in their honor immediately following the graduation ceremony. The reception is being coordinated by parents of students, with monetary donations and food items being received from parents of seniors.

Information for Family and Friends for Graduation

Handicapped Seating: Handicap seating policy is from **Meymandi Theatre and for wheelchairs only**. Wheelchair Area: due to limited space, the area designated as handicap will be for wheelchairs only, and not for guests using canes, walkers, crutches, or in poor health. One (1) family member will be allowed to sit with the family member who is in a wheelchair. Persons being seated in the handicapped area should enter the theatre at the designated areas that are marked. They may enter 45 minutes prior to the ceremony. Wheelchairs are not provided by DPEC or WCPSS. The senior students should notify Mrs. Hill in writing by May 10th if they need to use the accessible seating area. Please give this information to Mrs. Hill in the main office.

All other guests will enter Meymandi Theatre at the main entrance. Guests may enter 40 minutes prior to the ceremony.

Interpreter Services: If a family member or guest will need an interpreter, please have the senior student notify Mrs. Hallberg in writing at least three (3) weeks prior to graduation. Please give this information to Mrs. Hallberg who is in the Main Office.

Respectfulness: We ask that all guests respect the right of every family to hear their student's name being announced. Family members and invited guests are requested to respect all seniors and the dignity of the ceremony by remaining quiet during the ceremony and especially as the names are called for the presentation of diplomas. Dr. Thompson may require a student to pick up their diploma at a later time if family and friends disrupt the graduation ceremony.

Information from Meymandi Theatre:

- No food or drink is allowed
- No flowers in glass vases
- No signs
- No balloons
- No camera bags
- No noisemakers of any kind
- No wrapped packages
- No individuals under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Stay in seat during the ceremony
- Flowers wrapped in tissue paper are allowed inside the building.

Exiting the Duke Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts: Guests are asked to exit Meymandi as soon as possible at the conclusion of the ceremony. Please do not linger.

Graduation Attire

We want your graduation ceremony to be a dignified experience. You have worked hard to reach this milestone, and you deserve a ceremony of which you can be proud. So that your graduation ceremony can be a special event for you and your family, we ask for your full cooperation in following the instructions and procedures given and adhering to the dress code for graduation. Any student who has difficulty acquiring an item necessary to meet the dress code requirement should discuss the situation with a counselor or an administrator.

MEN: Wear dress shoes (no TopSiders, sandals, flip-flops or tennis shoes), dress socks, dress trousers (no jeans), dress tie, and a white or light blue dress shirt. Do not wear jeans or shorts. Anything that shows through the gown will detract from the ceremony.

WOMEN: Wear dress shoes (no casual sandals, flip-flops or tennis shoes). Be careful not to wear too high of a heel; you will be walking up and down steps. Wear either a skirt and blouse, dress slacks and blouse or dress. The skirt or dress should not show below the hemline of the gown.

CAPS AND GOWNS should always be worn in a dignified way. Be sure gowns are neatly pressed. Use an iron on cool setting. Caps are always worn straight on the head and the tassel worn on the right side.

Graduation Procedures and Etiquette

Seniors will graduate in alphabetical order. At the time of the presentation of diplomas, sections of seniors will be escorted to the stage by student ambassadors. Please watch for their

signal. Everyone in the row will stand together and follow the ambassador's directions. Upon hearing his/her name called, each senior will walk across the stage and receive his/her diploma. The diploma will be received by the left hand, and you will shake hands with the right.

After the diploma is presented, exit the stage and return to your designated seat. Do not wait for the entire row to return to their seats. Please be seated immediately so that others may view the ceremony.

While waiting for the other seniors to receive their diplomas, *please give your fellow graduates respect so that each person's name can be properly heard.* After every senior has received his/her diploma, the class president will lead you in the traditional tassel ceremony. You will be moving your tassel from the right side to the left side of your cap.

Any graduate who disrupts the ceremony by hand gestures, hooting and hollering, etc will have to meet with Dr. Thompson at a later date at her convenience.

Reminders

- All Wake County School Policies must be maintained. Any major infraction will result in the loss of the privilege to participate in the graduation activities.
- All fees and fines must be paid by the May 19th. Seniors who fail to assume full financial responsibility to Vernon Malone will not receive a diploma until all fines are cleared.
- Attendance at the graduation rehearsal is mandatory. You will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony if you are not at the graduation rehearsal.
- Admission to the graduation ceremony is by ticket only. Each senior will be given eight (8) tickets. There are NO extra tickets available. Therefore, you may want to ask your friends if they have tickets that they are not planning on using that they might share with you. The school is not responsible for facilitating the exchange of tickets.
- If you are having difficulties getting your cap/gown, tassel, or diploma cover, see Mr. Weaver immediately.
- Please be reminded that any misconduct on your part during graduation WILL result in your diploma being pulled. If that happens, you will need to contact Dr. Thompson for an appointment. You may contact her for an appointment two (2) weeks after graduation.
- The Duke Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts is an active space. They have asked that we respect the fact that people are still using the building and assist them in making sure that we leave the areas used as good as or better than we found them.