

NEEDHAM B. BROUGHTON HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2026 Senior Booklet



Senior Class Personnel

Principal: Janiece Dilts

Senior Events Coordinator: Betsy Graves

Class Advisors: Christy Calabrese, Yohannes Kibret, Kristin Omer

Parent Partners: Lisa Bull, Bonnie Hopkins, Elizabeth Smith,
Eliza Stoecker, Juli Trexler, Ashlea Waters

Dean of Students: Brent Sauls

Senior Fines and Fees/Scholarships/Graduation Packets: Suzanne Quirk

12th Grade Administrator: Kamesha Johnson

Student Government Advisor: Juliana Pattisall- Williams

Awards Assembly: Margie Harrison

Community Service: Adam Hatch and Amy Merriman



Class of 2026 **SENIOR** Information



SENIOR PERSONNEL: WHOS WHO

Senior Events Coordinator: Betsy Graves

(Logistics and communication for Senior Events and Activities
Senior Breakfast, Senior Sunrise, Queen of Hearts, Senior Picnic, Senior Booklet,
Senior Assembly, Candlelight/Lighting of the Bell Tower, Graduation)

bgraves@wcpss.net

Class Advisors: Christy Calabrese, Yohannes Kibret, Kristin Omer

(Class Council Communication & Involvement, Student Buy In,
Queen of Hearts, Graduation Activities Student Involvement)

Parent Partners: Lisa Bull, Bonnie Hopkins, Elizabeth Smith, Eliza Stoecker, Juli Trexler, Ashlea Waters

(Parent Communication & Involvement for all Senior Events,
Bricks, Dues, Yard Signs) <https://www.broughtonpts.org/class-of-2026>

Janiece Dilts

Principal

Suzanne Quirk

(Scholarships, Cap/Gown Distribution,
Senior Fines/Fees, Graduation Packets)

Juliana Pattisall- Williams

(Student Government Advisor)

Student Services

(Transcripts, Senior Meetings,
Recommendations, College Advice)

Kamesha Johnson

12th Grade Administrator

Deirdre O'Malley

College Counselor

Adam Hatch & Amy Merriman

(Community Service)

Calendar of Senior Events

The TBA will be given by the Senior Meeting in March 2026

August:	
Monday, August 25	First Day of School
September:	
Throughout September	Senior and Senior Guardians meet with their counselor
October:	
Friday, October 17	Senior Homecoming
Saturday, October 18	Sadies
Wednesday, October 22	Senior Breakfast (Caps Connection + 30 minutes 2nd period on the Front Lawn)
Thursday, October 23	Senior Roadshow and Portraits (Small Gym 9:30-5:30PM)
October 20-26	Countdown to College
Monday, October 27	National Honor Society Inductions
Wednesday, October 29	International and Arts Festival
November:	
Thursday, November 6	Senior Yearbook Photos Only (Auditorium 8:00-4:00PM)
Friday, November 21	Last day to submit Senior Photo through Cady - all other photos will have to be taken with Schmelzenbach or to notify Schmelzenbach to request photos from Cady if taken after this date
December:	
Thursday, December 18	Service Club Assembly
Wednesday, December 31	Jostens Senior Ads are due by midnight (Online at Jostens.com)
January:	
Friday, January 9	Senior Sunrise (7AM on the Football Field)
Friday, January 23	Any missed Senior photos must be taken with Schmelzenbach by this date or they may not make it in the book. (Pod 2 by Appointment)
February:	
Friday, February 6	Queen of Hearts School Assembly (8AM)
Saturday, February 7	Queen of Hearts Community Assembly (11AM)

Saturday, February 7	Queen of Hearts (8-11PM)
Thursday, February 19	Black History Month Assembly (Auditorium)
March:	
Monday, March 9	Yearbook is finished and fully submitted for printing
Tuesday, March 17	Mandatory Senior Class Meeting, 8:55-9:25 am, Auditorium
TBA	Senior Academic Honors Dinner 7:00-8:30 pm. By invitation only
TBA	Senior Community Service Hours for Cord Due by 3:00 pm
April	
Saturday, April 19	Junior/Senior Prom 7:30 pm-10:30 pm
TBA	Yard Sign Pick Up (directly after school)
May	
Friday, May 15	Senior Scholarship Information Due by 3pm
TBA	Senior Yearbook Distribution <i>both lunches</i>
TBA	Cap/Gown Distribution 10:30-12:45 and 2:30-3:30 in <i>Front Hall</i>
TBA	Cap/Gown Distribution 10:30-12:45 and 2:30-3:30 in <i>Front Hall</i>
Wednesday, May 20	Senior Family Picnic 5:30-7:30pm, Front Lawn
Tuesday, May 26	Awards Program, 6pm, Diane Payne Auditorium
Friday, May 22	Last Mandatory 4B class for Seniors
Friday, May 22	Scholarship Information Due for Senior Assembly
Tuesday, May 26	Last Mandatory A day classes for Seniors
Wednesday, May 27	Last Mandatory 1B, 2B, 3B classes for Seniors
Wednesday, May 27	Mandatory Senior Assembly Rehearsal 12:45pm Holliday Gymnasium
Thursday, May 28	Senior Assembly & Senior Lunch 8:45am Holliday Gymnasium - (<i>Seniors report to assigned areas by 8:00am</i>)
TBA	Handicapped Seating Request for Graduation due by 3:00pm
TBA	Senior Books, Fees, and Fines Due by 2:30pm
TBA	Senior Service Hours Due
Friday, May 29	Handicap Seating Due for Graduation

Friday, May 29	Exams (May 29 - June 10)
Sunday, May 31	Candlelight Service 7:30pm Diane Payne Auditorium
Sunday, May 31	Lighting of the Bell Tower and Slideshow, 9:00pm, Front Lawn
June	
Tuesday, June 9	IB Medallion Ceremony 2:00pm Diane Payne Auditorium
Wednesday, June 10	Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal/Ticket Distribution 12:45pm <i>Holliday Gym</i>
Thursday, June 11	Commencement & Reception - (<i>Seniors report to assigned areas by 9:00am</i>)

Description of Senior Events

<p style="text-align: center;">SENIOR BREAKFAST</p> <p>WHEN: October 22 during Caps Connection/2nd period</p> <p>WHERE: Front Lawn</p> <p>Description: A breakfast to celebrate the senior class, talk about all things senior, vote on the QOH theme and take the official senior picnic</p> <p>How to participate: All seniors are invited</p> <p>Norms: Casual. Seniors wear senior tshirt</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SENIOR SUNRISE</p> <p>WHEN: January 9 at 7:00am</p> <p>WHERE: Football Field</p> <p>Description: To kick off the 2026 year we have a gathering on the football field to watch the sunrise together, eat and take a 26 picture!</p> <p>How to participate: All seniors are included</p> <p>Norms: Casual, bring blankets</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">QUEEN OF HEARTS</p> <p>School Assembly: February 6 9:00am — Holliday Gym</p> <p>Community Assembly: February 7 11:00am — Holliday Gym</p> <p>QOH Dance: February 7 8:00 - 11:00 pm — Holliday Gym</p> <p>Description: An entire school event sponsored and organized by the Senior Class. In December all students and families will receive a comprehensive packet about QOH 2026.</p> <p>How to participate: All eligible students can attend the dance, all students that meet the behavioral standard may audition for the talent portion of the assembly and any senior is eligible to audition to be the Master of Ceremony or in the skit. All seniors are invited to participate in build days as well!</p> <p>Helpful Hints: Formal Attire for the dance</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SENIOR PICNIC</p> <p>WHEN: May 20 at 5:30PM — Front Lawn</p> <p>Description: A fun evening to kick off the countdown to Graduation. Come gather on the Front Lawn for food and fellowship with your seniors.</p> <p>How to participate: Students RSVP through PTSA and families purchase tickets.</p> <p>Helpful Hints: Casual Dress, Families come with their seniors, fellowship together, view the senior slideshow in the auditorium.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SENIOR ASSEMBLY</p> <p>WHEN: May 28 8:15 arrival for students to school</p> <p>8:45 start time</p> <p>How to participate: All eligible seniors participate. If your child is going to be presented with an award you will be contacted. All families are able to attend. In order to perform or speak there is an audition/ sign up process that will be available at the end of March. 6-word stories happen in English Classes.</p> <p>Description: An event to celebrate the senior class in front of the student body and parents. Select scholarships and awards are presented. Speeches and performances by students.</p> <p>Helpful Hints: Parents are allowed to attend. You can arrive as early as 8AM for seating.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Interfaith Candlelight Service and Lighting of the Bell Tower</p> <p>WHEN: May 31 7:30PM [Service] - Auditorium \ 9:00PM [Lighting] - Front Lawn</p> <p>Description: began in 2006 as a way for the entire Broughton community to come together in a meaningful and spiritual celebration.</p> <p>How to participate: All students and families are able to attend. In order to perform or speak there is an audition/ sign up process that will be available at the beginning of March</p> <p>Helpful Hints: Sunday Nice Dress, families can come to both events, the events are back to back but can also be experienced separately. Slideshow on the Belltower starts at 9PM and runs through twice.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GRADUATION</p> <p>WHEN: June 11 at 10:00AM — Holliday Gym</p> <p>Description: The day you have been waiting for!</p> <p>Norms: Nice dress... see all of the clear details about Graduation below</p>	

Graduation Events

DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS

****PLEASE NOTE THAT INFORMATION COULD CHANGE UNTIL MARCH 17.**
DATES WILL NOT CHANGE BUT INFORMATION WILL BE ADDED. I WILL HIGHLIGHT CHANGES.**

MANDATORY SENIOR CLASS MEETING

All Seniors are required to attend the Senior Class Meeting on **March 17th during advisory** in the Diane Payne Auditorium. Mrs. Dilts will go over important information about graduation including information about the credits for graduation, the Senior Assembly, and Graduation events.

SENIOR ACADEMIC HONORS DINNER - BY INVITATION

The Senior Academic Honors Dinner will be held in the Spring with the location to be determined. **The Date will be announced by January 2026.** This event is sponsored by the [Broughton Academic Booster Club](#) and is by invitation only for current seniors with Summa Cum Laude designation as of February 2026 (4.25+).

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS DUE FOR SILVER CORD

Any senior who would like to be eligible to receive a Community Service Silver Honor Cord for graduation must have submitted community service hours in the online system **by a date that will be announced in January 2026.** No hours submitted after this deadline will be considered.

SENIOR YARD SIGNS

All seniors that signed up for a complimentary yard sign will pick up their sign in April. The finalized date will be announced in January.

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION DUE

All Seniors should submit information about the scholarships they have received by Friday, **May 22nd by 3pm**, even if they do not plan to claim the scholarships.

Information may be submitted on a Google form. **The google form will be available March 2026 after the senior meeting.** Scholarship information will be printed and read for all students at the Senior Assembly, so please be sure to submit your information!

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Quirk in Student Services, squirk@wcpss.net.

SENIOR YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Date will be announced in January
During both lunches in Front Hall
CONTACT: LeeAnn Schmelzenbach

CAP AND GOWN DISTRIBUTION

PTSA volunteers will distribute caps and gowns, honor cords and stoles, and graduation products (announcements, rings, etc.) will be handed out in the front hallway **during lunches and after school. Date will be announced in January.** Please plan to pick up your cap and gown on these dates and times!

The staff members in Student Services and the front office will not be able to assist students with caps and gowns during the school day outside of the distribution dates/times. Cap and Gown will not be distributed to a student who owes any fines or fees. Questions: Suzanne Quirk squirk@wcpss.net

SENIOR FAMILY PICNIC

Seniors, their families, and guests are invited to attend the annual Senior Family Picnic! This is a wonderful event to celebrate seniors and their families as we approach graduation. The picnic will be held on **Wednesday, May 20th from 5:30pm -7:30pm on the Front Lawn** (Auxiliary Gym in case of rain). Family members and guests should purchase tickets prior to the picnic (the link to purchase tickets will be posted here closer to the event). Seniors are invited for the first viewing of the Senior Slideshow shown throughout the event in Diane Payne Auditorium.

Seniors do not have to purchase a ticket but must submit a response that they will be attending so organizers can plan appropriately for catering for the event.

MANDATORY SENIOR ASSEMBLY REHEARSAL

May 27th promptly at 12:45 pm, Seniors will report to the Holliday Gymnasium to rehearse for the Senior Assembly. Instructions will be given for lining up and marching. All Seniors must attend this rehearsal. Work-study students must make arrangements with employers to attend. **Cap and Gown are not worn for the rehearsal.**

SENIOR AWARDS ASSEMBLY & SENIOR LUNCH

Senior Awards Assembly at 8:45AM

The Senior Awards Assembly is a wonderful time to celebrate our Seniors and their accomplishments with Broughton students and staff.

Seniors should report to their assigned areas at **8:15 am on May 28th** and line up as practiced at rehearsal. **Seniors should wear caps and gowns and suitable graduation attire. No jeans, shorts, flip-flops, sunglasses or tennis shoes** (see section on appropriate attire in graduation information).

Etiquette and Guidelines for Senior Assembly:

- Caps and gowns should always be worn in a dignified manner. Be sure that the gowns are always neatly pressed. Use a cool iron when you press the gown or have it dry-cleaned.
- Caps are always worn straight on the head—not tilted sideways or back. There should be nothing other than the tassel on top of the cap. The tassel is always worn over the right temple until the end of the graduation exercises when the senior class president gives the signal to turn the tassels to the left side.
- At the senior assembly any cords and medals are allowed to be worn.

Senior Lunch

After the Senior Assembly, the PTSA will treat Seniors to lunch in Jack Spain Stadium. Lunch will be provided for Seniors (only).

The Senior Edition of the Hi-Times will be distributed to Seniors during this annual celebratory luncheon.

HANDICAPPED SEATING REQUESTS FOR GRADUATION

Any Senior who has a guest who will require handicapped seating at graduation must complete the Handicapped Seating Request Google Form **by 3:00 pm on Friday, May 29th. The google form will be available in March 2026 after the Senior Meeting.** The staff contact for questions is Mrs. Amy Merriman.

Handicapped parking will be available in the parking lot beside the Pods for vehicles that have an appropriate handicapped tag displayed.

SENIOR FINES DUE

Senior Fines are due to be paid by **May 30th at 3:00pm**. Senior fines can include textbooks owed to teachers, uniforms that need to be returned to JROTC, Media Center fines, uniforms to be returned by athletes, money owed for Arts field trips, and any other classroom items borrowed by students.

If a Senior has a fine owed, a hold will be placed on graduation tickets until the fine is resolved. To avoid stress the day before graduation, please don't wait until the last minute to resolve items owed! Please contact Ms. Quirk in Student Services, squirk@wcpss.net, with questions about fines.

SENIOR HOURS

All senior service hours are due for graduation on Friday, May 29, 2026 at 3:00pm.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AND LIGHTING OF THE BELL TOWER

The Candlelight Graduation Service takes place **Sunday, May 31st from 7:30 pm**. Since 2006, this service has brought together family and friends of multiple faiths to celebrate Broughton's senior class. The service includes music, readings, and spiritual reflections offered by students and faith leaders in the community. A candlelight procession to the Broughton front lawn concludes the service and serves as a blessing for the Class of 2026. Following the candlelight procession, Seniors and their families are invited to view the Senior Slideshow projected onto the Belltower. Chairs and blankets for viewing from the front lawn are encouraged.

IB MEDALLION CEREMONY

June 9th

2:00pm

Diane Payne Auditorium

Students in the International Baccalaureate programme will receive information from Dr. Brooks and Mr. Quinn as we get closer to the date of the IB Medallion Ceremony.

MANDATORY GRADUATION REHEARSAL & GRADUATION TICKET DISTRIBUTION

Graduation Rehearsal

All graduating Seniors must be in the Holliday Gymnasium in his/her/their assigned seat by **12:45 pm on Thursday, June 10th** for graduation rehearsal. Please do not bring caps and gowns to rehearsal. **Seniors who plan to participate in the graduation exercises MUST ATTEND REHEARSAL!** Seniors who do not attend rehearsal will not be permitted to attend graduation.

Graduation Ticket Distribution

Tickets for graduation will be distributed following the rehearsal. **Each senior will receive admission tickets for commencement.** Only those guests (including children 1 year of age or older) with tickets (not announcements) will be admitted. Please remember that all financial obligations (Senior fines) must be met in order for a student to receive admission tickets for graduation.

COMMENCEMENT & RECEPTION

Commencement: June 11th (10:00AM)

All graduating seniors should report to their assigned locations at **9:00am on June 13th**. Be sure you are dressed appropriately (see dress code section below) with your cap and gown. Handicapped guests can be seated with one (1) escort only to allow room for other guests. Immediately following Commencement, seniors will have an opportunity to sign the bell tower and will then join their families on the front lawn for a graduation reception sponsored by the PTSA.

Graduation Etiquette, Guidelines, and Dress Code

The faculty and staff of Broughton High School want to make your graduation a most memorable experience. We ask for your full cooperation with the dress code for our graduation ceremony. If you have any questions as to the appropriate dress for these occasions, please check with Mr. Sauls, our Dean of Students, in Student Services. Any student, who cannot acquire an item necessary to meet the dress code requirement should discuss this issue with Mr. Sauls. We encourage students, family, and friends to conduct themselves in a way that brings honor and prestige to each student and our school and continues our tradition of excellence.

Etiquette and Guidelines for Graduation:

- Caps and gowns should always be worn in a dignified manner. Be sure that the gowns are always neatly pressed. Use a cool iron when you press the gown or have it dry-cleaned.
- Caps are always worn straight on the head—not tilted sideways or back. There should be nothing other than the tassel on top of the cap. The tassel is always worn over the right temple until the end of the graduation exercises when the senior class president gives the signal to turn the tassels to the left side.
- **Dress Code:** Required to wear dress shoes (no boots, flip-flops, top-siders, or sports-styled shoes), dark dress socks (no white socks), dress shirt with a collar and tie (bow ties are fine), dress slacks (no jeans or shorts), suitable dresses. Please bring several pins if you need to pin your cap on your hair.

- Only official cords and medals that are distributed by Broughton should be worn with the gown.
 - National Honor Society - blue/gold; NC Scholar - Purple; Silver - Community Service; White - Service Club; French Honor Society - blue/red; Spanish Honor Society - red/yellow; German National Honor Society - red, black and gold; NHSDA- light blue and white;; IB - medal; Presidential Pin - pin; Stoles (white) - only NBHS Latin Honors; hood - new for NBHS (gold); Math National Honor Society (Mu Alpha Theta) - light blue and gold; Arts National Honor Society - red, blue and yellow.
- Seniors will graduate in alphabetical order. Upon hearing your name called, you will walk across the stage and receive your diploma cover. Please note that diplomas will not be in the cover. You will receive your diploma after the ceremony in the Auxiliary Gym. The diploma cover will be received by the left hand and you shake the hand of the principal with your right hand.

****NOTICE:** Seniors should have nothing on them except their clothes, cap, and gown. NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES, NO PURSES, NO KEYS OR CHANGE THAT CAN MAKE NOISE, ETC. SENIORS WILL BE CHECKED PRIOR TO THE CEREMONY.

****NOTICE:** Seniors should remain quiet at all times and should not get out of line at any time.

Other Important Information

- **Doors to Holliday Gymnasium will open at 9:15 a.m. for the ceremony.**
- **Doors to the Holliday Gym will be LOCKED promptly at 10:00am.** Any guests arriving after 10:00 am or any guests who do not have a ticket will need to attend the live-stream of the ceremony in the Diane Payne Auditorium.
- A professional photographer will be taking pictures at graduation. Because the senior class has contracted a photographer to take pictures of each senior receiving a diploma, no other picture-taking near the stage area is permitted.
- All fees, fines, etc., must be paid by the deadlines. Seniors who fail to clear up all financial obligations to Broughton High School cannot participate in the graduation activities. A student will not receive graduation tickets unless all financial obligations have been met. These include fees and fines charged to you and not paid during the past four years.
- Each graduating senior will receive 5 admission tickets for graduation. Tickets will be distributed following the Graduation rehearsal to those students who have met all requirements for graduation. There are no additional tickets available. Tickets are required for all individuals aged one (1) and above.
- All diplomas will have your birth certificate legal name. If you would like to be called by your preferred name at graduation please contact your administrator. All preferred names must be submitted and listed in powerschool.
- Seniors will pick up diplomas in the Auxiliary Gymnasium immediately after the Commencement Ceremony.
- Anyone dressed inappropriately will NOT participate in senior activities or graduation exercises.
- Seniors who do not meet graduation requirements will be notified on **Tuesday, June 9th**. Only those seniors who meet graduation requirements are eligible to participate in the graduation rehearsal and commencement ceremony.

- Note of Caution – A Broughton High School graduation tradition includes an optional “signing of the bell tower” during the graduation reception. Graduating students may enter into the bell tower in order to sign their names on the belfry walls with markers. This part of the building was never designed to provide access to the general public and as a result the stairs are steep, narrow, with open risers, and without handrails. There is no air conditioning within this space and there are cable conduits which run across the floor and across the steps of the stairwells. Graduating students are welcome to participate in this tradition, but extreme caution should be used while moving about the area. High-heeled shoes are strongly discouraged and under no circumstances are windows to be opened or leaned upon within the belfry.
- All Wake County Public School System School Board Policies must be followed at all times! Students who do not follow the appropriate code of conduct during graduation will have their diploma pulled, and they will not receive it. Additionally, the principal may not allow students to participate in commencement if they do not abide by the Code of Student Conduct prior to graduation.
- Please make wise choices that are respectful of your health and safety as well as that of your classmates and others attending graduation

Transcripts

Information will be available March 2026 after the Senior Meeting on March 17th.

Contact: Mr. Brent Sauls, Mrs. Dale Wall and Student Services

Final Exam Exemptions for Seniors

Seniors may be exempt from exams based on the following criteria:

- Students must have a projected final grade of B or higher;
- Students must have 10 or fewer absences in the course (**includes excused and unexcused absences**)
- Students cannot be exempt from state testing including field testing