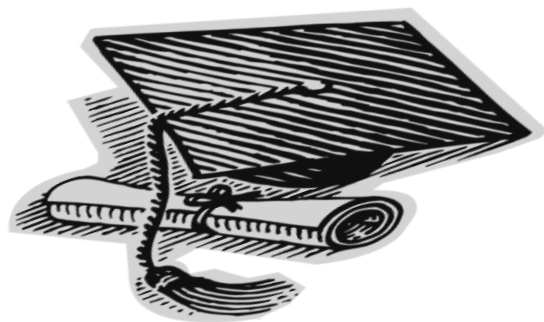


GRADUATION HANDBOOK



Fuquay-Varina High School

Class of 2023

A Letter from the Principal:

Dear Seniors:

It has been my privilege to have been your principal for your senior year. As I reflect about your high school career the word that comes to my mind is “change.” You all have been through lots of changes in the four years of your high school career. You’ve overcome so much change and you’ve learned to change with the times as “change” demanded. The last hurdle for you is your commencement ceremony - graduation!

This handbook contains essential information regarding upcoming events, activities, and details for your graduation ceremony. Please read and share this information with your parents. You are responsible for understanding and complying with all of the guidelines established for this special ceremony. It is my expectation that you will cooperate fully to make the graduation ceremony a success. We will not compromise the dignity of the occasion and the recognition that each one of you deserves.

I wish each of you the successes that life brings - enjoy every day to the fullest. I will always remember you, this graduating class!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike James".

Robert M. “Mike” James
Principal



Mid-year Grad Edition

Contents:

- . Tickets
- . Dates
- . Raleigh Convention Center Info
- . Graduation Attire and Conduct

* Caps and Gowns may be picked up in Student Services during normal school hours *

Graduation Ticket Distribution

Date/Time: June 12th (9:00 - 11:00 and 12:00 - 2:00)

Date/Time: June 13th (9:00 - 12:00 Main Office)

Place: main lobby

- Seniors must pick up their own tickets with a picture ID
- Parents may not pick up tickets for their Senior
- Each student will receive 8 tickets to graduation
- Only ticketed guests will be allowed admission to Graduation

Graduation Ceremony

Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2022

Place: Raleigh Convention Center

Dress Code: See Graduation Attire, Cap and Gown

Arrival Time: 11:00 AM

Ceremony Start Time: 12:00 PM

THE PROCESSIONAL WILL BEGIN AT 12:00PM. IF YOU ARE LATE, YOU MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE PROCESSIONAL.

Financial Obligations

Seniors must pay all FVHS financial obligations in order to receive graduation tickets. This includes any remaining dues, fees, fines, assessments for missing textbooks/uniforms/equipment/etc.

Seniors *will not* receive Graduation tickets and *cannot* participate in the Graduation Ceremony until all financial obligations are met.

ALL FEES, FINES, ETC. MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY 3 pm Friday, June 2nd 2023.

A Message from the Dean of Students:

Dear Graduating Seniors,

Congratulations to each and every one of you! I hope you all have had an amazing journey through high school. Take away all the valuable lessons learned, the trusted relationships made, and the confidence in knowing you can achieve whatever goals you may set for yourself. As you leave Fuquay-Varina High School to pursue new challenges and opportunities, I know you will find that the education you received at our school has prepared you for the future. It is now up to you what you do with it. Go forth and do good things!

This is an exciting time for you and your family as you prepare for graduation! Treasure the moments and enjoy the many special activities in your honor! We want to make your graduation one of the happiest memories in your life. Family members, friends, teachers, counselors, and administrators have helped you reach this momentous occasion. Let us all work together to ensure your graduation is a dignified occasion where your achievements are recognized and acknowledged.

Best wishes for much continued success in all your future endeavors. Most of all ... enjoy your journey!

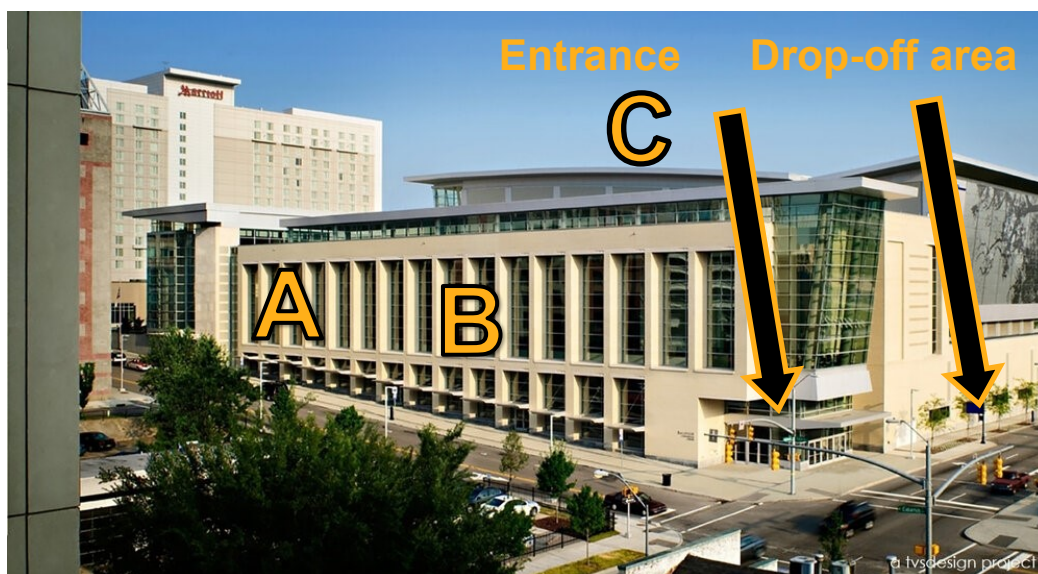
Kindest regards,

Mrs. Patricia Moore
Dean of Students



Lifetouch (Prestige) will be at graduation taking official photos of each senior as they receive their diploma on stage from the principal. More information will be coming soon regarding how to order your graduation photo directly through Lifetouch.

Raleigh Convention Center (RCC)



RCC REMINDERS

The parking garage fee is \$10 per car for rehearsal and graduation.

The Raleigh Convention Center will not allow anyone to enter the facility with flowers in glass vases, signs, balloons, noise makers, food, drinks, or wrapped packages. Unruly or intoxicated guests will also be prevented from entering.

Handicap guests are encouraged to park in parking area under the Marriott Hotel and enter the RCC from the underground parking. Only 1 person will be allowed to accompany wheelchair guests in the reserved wheelchair section of the ceremony.

Due to fire code, strollers & tripods cannot block aisles and will have to be stored at the entrance.

During the ceremony, individuals should remain seated and should not be out of seats to take pictures or move closer to the stage. Camera tripods cannot block aisles. Guests may videotape from their seat, but tripods may not be set higher than eye level or block the view of other guests.

Everyone will need to exit the Convention Center immediately after the ceremony.

COMMENCEMENT

Date: Wednesday, June 14

Time: 12:00 pm

Place: Raleigh Convention Center

Arrival: 11:00 am

- * Be on time. Plan for traffic, parking, and other delays.
- * There is a drop-off area under the "Shimmer Wall" on McDowell Street for seniors and those guests who have difficulty walking distances.
- * Enter the RCC through entrance **C**. This will be reviewed at rehearsal.
- * Check in with the FVHS staff member who is assigned to your row.
- * Parents and guests will be admitted at **11:15 am** through all entrances. Seating is first come, first served and guests may not reserve or hold seats.
- * Wear your graduation cap and gown to graduation.
- * Be careful NOT to lose your tassel; it falls off easily and cannot be replaced.
- * Write your full name inside your cap. You will need to show your cap to receive your diploma.
- * **THE PROCESSIONAL LINE UP WILL BEGIN AT APPROXIMATELY 11:50 AM; LATE STUDENTS MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE PROCESSIONAL.**

Seniors graduate in alphabetical order. Upon hearing their name called, each senior will walk across the stage and receive his/her diploma cover from the principal. A name is called approximately every 3-4 seconds and the audience will be asked to refrain from applause or noise for the next senior's name to be heard. Times for applause will be built into the program at various points.

Graduation Etiquette

Caps and Gowns

- Graduation is a dignified event and both caps and gowns should always be worn in a dignified manner.
- Gowns should not be wrinkled. Let the gown hang for several weeks. May use a COOL iron or garment steamer if needed. DO NOT HOT IRON, WASH OR DRY CLEAN THE GOWNS.
- All students always wear caps STRAIGHT on the head, parallel to the floor. Teacher line supervisors will help adjust the cap for you if you are not wearing the cap correctly.
- Tassels are worn on the right side of the cap until the changing of the tassel near the conclusion of the ceremony. As a group, you will be instructed to move the tassels to the left side to signify your graduation.
- Graduates are expected to hold their caps at the end of the ceremony.
- Graduates will show his/her name written inside of his/her cap to the staff member distributing diplomas after the end of the ceremony.

No one is allowed to alter attire or add decorations to their cap or gown.

Honor cords are only to be worn by members in good standing of approved organizations with National Charters at FVHS.

Ceremony Conduct

- Students are expected to walk in the procession and across the stage to receive their diploma without gestures or vulgarity and any other displays that distract from the dignity of the ceremony
- Cat-calling, yelling, and pranks during graduation by seniors and guests will distract from the ceremony. If necessary, the diploma will be withheld from any student if he/she or his/her guests disrupt the ceremony.
- No gum and no smoking once you enter the grounds of the Convention Center.



Appropriate Dress

- Collared dress shirt and necktie or bowtie
- Dress pants/khakis and dark socks (no jeans)
- Light weight dress under the graduation robe (not longer than the gown) or dress pants with collared dress shirt
- Minimal jewelry
- Shoes- Dress shoes, flats or pumps with heel strap (no boat shoes, athletic shoes, boots, sandals, flip flops)
- NO cell phones, purses, handbags, cameras, or other electronic devices. Nothing is to be carried into the ceremony

PARTICIPATION IN THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IS NOT A GUARANTEED RIGHT, IT IS A PRIVILEGE. THE PRINCIPAL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN ANY GRADUATION EVENT IF CONDUCT AT SCHOOL IS NOT MAINTAINED AT A HIGH LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE.

Graduates who do not wear appropriate attire or violate any WCPSS or FVHS standards of conduct, including guidelines in this handbook, may be removed from the line and may not be allowed to participate in commencement activities.