

ATHENS DRIVE
MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2023



GRADUATION
HANDBOOK

SPECIAL NOTES TO THE GRADUATING CLASS

1. Extra tassels will be available at a cost of \$10. Should you lose your tassel, you will be required to purchase another. **ONLY ORANGE TASSELS ARE TO BE WORN AT GRADUATION!**
2. Be prepared at all times to pay for parking at the Raleigh Convention Center! Minimum of \$10 (some of the parking decks rates are per hour)!
3. A professional photographer will be available to take the pictures of Seniors as they receive their diplomas. Seniors will receive information concerning picture ordering information at the Graduation Rehearsal on May 25. ***Evan Pike Photography offers a convenient online portal so you can preview before you order. More details coming on May 25!***
4. Please tell your parents/friends/family **NOT** to bring any of the following items to Graduation: **POSTERS, BALLOONS, FLOWERS** (in glass vases), or **WRAPPED PACKAGES!** None of these items can be brought into the Raleigh Convention Center! If they bring it, it will be taken and thrown away!
5. **Confirmation of grades and Graduation status will be made by noon (12:00pm) of the school day on June 9th and the Counselors will notify those NOT Graduating Friday afternoon on June 9th.**
6. Tickets for Graduation
 - a. Each Senior will be issued 7 tickets (at the Graduation Rehearsal) for admission to commencement exercises. We are waiting for guidance from WCPSS to see if we can offer extra tickets. If we are able, then you will receive those at Rehearsal on May 25. If you need additional tickets it is up to each Senior to find extra tickets from other Seniors.
 - b. One (1) ticket will be needed for each person, **INCLUDING INFANTS and CHILDREN**, who attends commencement. **NO ONE** without a ticket will be admitted to the commencement exercise.
 - c. Tickets will be distributed to Seniors at the conclusion of Graduation rehearsal. Each Senior is responsible for getting his/her own tickets. **IF YOU ARE NOT PRESENT AT REHEARSAL YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE TICKETS.**
 - d. Any Senior who has not paid his/her graduation fee and other school debts will **NOT** be issued tickets.
 - e. Fees/ Fines will ***need to be paid at school*** before tickets can be issued!
 - f. **EXTRA TICKET REQUEST FORM** is at the back of this packet, *assuming we get the approval to issue extra tickets!*

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

MARCH 15, 2023

Distribution of Cap & Gowns by Jostens *during both lunches*. The *next* pick-up date is May 4! If you missed this pick-up date, you will have to see Mr. Remaley to schedule a time to pick it up (or email at cremaley@wcpss.net). If you have a balance owed, then you will need to pay Jostens (919-789-8500) before you can pick up your cap & gown!

APRIL 27, 2023

Senior Breakfast will be 1st Period (7:25-9am) in the Upper Gym! Get ready for some terrific breakfast options, good times, important information about end-of-year procedures and everyone's favorite- *lots of prizes!* Must be present to win! Everyone gets a souvenir cup filled with goodies! Don't miss this!

MAY 6, 2023

Prom will be at the Sheraton Hotel, downtown Raleigh, 8-11:30pm, tickets are \$50 each. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.wcpss.net/domain/7133> EVERYONE going to the Prom needs *permission forms* (print them at the athensdrive.wcpss.net website). Non-Athens guests need to complete the guest form in addition to the permission form. See the website for more information!

MAY 25, 2023

GRADUATION REHEARSAL (7:25am) – NO GRADUATING SENIOR CAN MISS THIS PRACTICE!
(NOTE! Seniors must report to the Upper Gym by 7:25am!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)
IF YOU FAIL TO PARTICIPATE IN REHEARSAL YOU WILL NOT PARTICPATE IN GRADUATION! BE ON TIME! OR YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE TICKETS AT REHEARSAL!

MAY 25, 2023

Senior Awards Assembly- 9:00-10:25am in the Athens Drive Upper Gym. Families are invited to attend! This event is to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2023!

MAY 26, 2023

SENIOR CLASS MEETING-

10:30 –11:15am (The Senior Slide show will immediately follow the Senior class meeting)

Want to contribute pictures to the slide show of you and your friends? Stay connected with the Senior Remind message on how/where to send your pics!

SENIOR CLASS PICNIC-Williams Football Stadium (Must purchase a ticket for \$5 prior to this day!! Tickets will be sold at lunch and after school in the GYM LOBBY 5/22 thru 5/25 AND NOT ON 5/26!!) 11:30-2:18am(*This event is optional, you do not have to attend but if you do- then you must stay till 2:18!*)

JUNE 2, 2023

SENIOR SUNRISE- @5:45am at Williams Field at Dorothea Dix Park! Wear your college shirt, bring a blanket & breakfast! We will take some pics, then come back to Athens for a great day of teaching & learning!

JUNE 5 – JUNE 9, 2023

FINAL EXAMS- If a Senior is exempt from an exam, then he/she must NOT come to school at that designated exam time. Questions regarding Exam Exemptions can be directed to Chris Remaley (cremaley@wcpss.net) *The FULL Final Exam Schedule will be posted to the Athens website in May!*

JUNE 10, 2023

GRADUATION 12:00pm (Graduates must report by 11:00am!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)
Raleigh Convention Center

IF YOU ARE NOT IN THE LINE-UP BY 11:15am, THEN YOU WILL NOT WALK!

GRADUATION REHEARSAL-NO GRADUATING SENIOR CAN MISS THIS PRACTICE!

Thursday, May 25, 2023, Athens Drive Upper Gym @ 7:25AM

***7:00am.- Advisors, marshals, and all students who have a part in the program report to the Upper Gym.**

***7:15am- Senior Class reports to the Upper Gym.**

- If an emergency arises that should cause you to miss practice, you are to call the attendance office at Athens (919-233-4050, ext. 24881) give your name and nature of emergency.
- **Caps and gowns should be worn.**
- Names will be placed in the seats in the alphabetical order that seniors are to be presented for diplomas.
- Seniors should find their assigned seats and SIT DOWN to wait for instructions from advisors.
- The class advisors and administrators will give instructions, Seniors will then practice until the procedure is clear and correct. Full cooperation on the part of everyone will make the rehearsal shorter.
- Seniors participating in the program (class officers and platform speakers) will march in front of the class. Upon reaching the stage, they will take their seats on the platform.
- After the graduation program is over, Junior Marshals will escort those on stage off. Then the class leaves in the recessional.
- Seniors will rehearse the processional, recessional, getting on and off stage, and standing and sitting as a class.
- The rehearsal will be dismissed ONLY when faculty advisors feel that there has been sufficient practice to ensure an orderly graduation!

GRADUATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023-12:00pm –RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER

*Seniors will report in proper attire at **11:00am SHARP** and find their seat in the staging area.

*Seniors should allow themselves plenty of time to have cars parked and be in their position by **11:15am.**

***EVERYONE MUST BE PRESENT BY 11:15am -DIPLOMAS FOR THOSE ABSENT WILL BE REMOVED FROM STAGE AT THIS TIME!**

*Procedure will be exactly the same as rehearsed in the practice.

*It is of utmost importance that all Seniors follow the directions of the Junior Marshals/Drive-Time teachers/advisors at all times. Their directions must be followed without question or argument.

*Final instructions will be given and the class will be escorted out to wait in line for the processional.

*During the ceremony, a professional photographer will take pictures of those receiving their diplomas. **NO ONE ELSE WILL BE PERMITTED TO TAKE PICTURES ON THE FLOOR OF THE RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER WHILE THE CEREMONY IS IN PROGRESS!**

***Seniors are reminded that this is a dignified ceremony and their behavior MUST reflect this dignity.**

***Please silence ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES!**

REMEMBER: WE ARE THE ONLY SCHOOL IN WAKE COUNTY THAT GIVES THE DIPLOMA TO THE GRADUATE WHEN THEY WALK ACROSS STAGE! IF YOU BEHAVE INAPPROPRIATELY AT ANYTIME-

YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR DIPLOMA AND INSTEAD YOU WILL GET INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO CALL MR. MARES TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO GET YOUR DIPLOMA IN HIS OFFICE AND DISCUSS YOUR BEHAVIOR AT GRADUATION.

ATTIRE FOR GRADUATES DURING GRADUATION

WOMEN

1. Simple, lightweight dress under Graduation robes (Not to exceed length of gown) OR dress pants.
2. Shoes should be classy and comfortable for walking! "Peep-toe" shoes okay. (No TENNIS SHOES or FLIP FLOPS!)
3. Minimal Jewelry. No jewelry on outside of Cap & Gown! (NO LARGE EARRINGS!)
4. Hairstyle which will fit under Graduation cap.
5. ALL SENIORS – male and female – should bring extra safety pins and hairpins.

MEN

1. White/light colored dress shirt, and dark tie. (bow ties can be worn, just look classy! NO BRIGHT COLORS!)
2. Dress pants – dark blue, gray, black, tan, (NO JEANS, CARGOS, SWEATPANTS, SHORTS, etc)
3. Dress shoes – (NO deck shoes Tennis Shoes, topsiders, flip flops OR Boots!)
4. Suit coats may be worn, but are probably going to be hot!

CONDUCT

1. We want this to be a happy time for you, but we also want it to be a dignified ceremony.
2. No cat – calling, yelling, or any pranks during any part of the ceremony.
3. NO TALKING during processional or recessional!!
4. All school rules apply to all graduation activities.
5. NO GUM – NO SMOKING – NO VAPING while in cap and gown.
6. Students not on time to line-up, rehearsals, etc., will NOT go through the ceremony.
7. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO ABIDE BY THE RULES, DO NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE YOUR DIPLOMA WITH THE REST OF THE SENIOR CLASS OR PARTICIPATE IN THE CEREMONY.

YOU CANNOT DECORATE THE TOP OF YOUR GRADUATION CAP!

GRADUATION ETIQUETTE

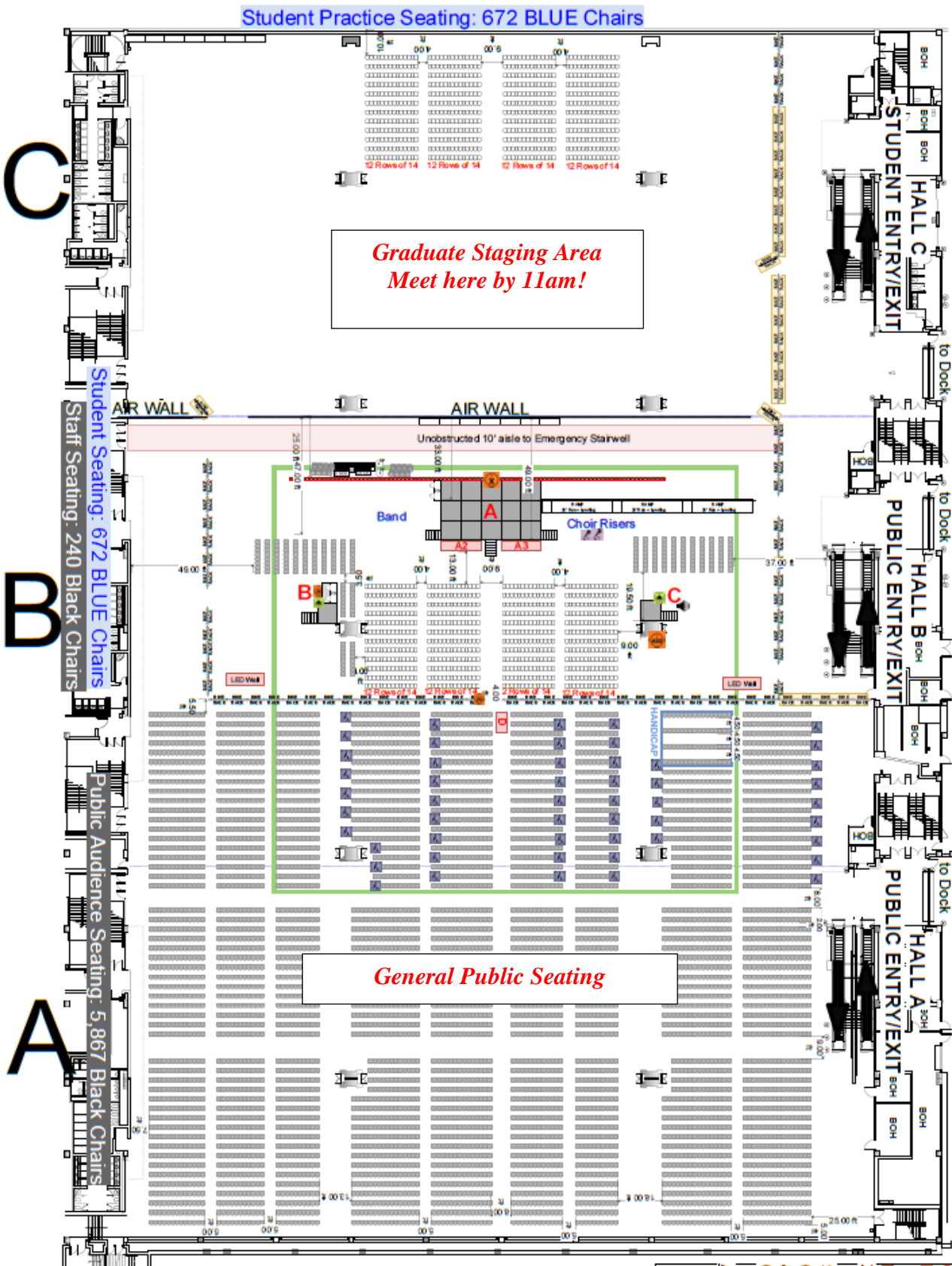
1. Cap & Gowns should always be worn in a dignified way. Be sure the gowns are neatly pressed. **WARNING: USE A COOL IRON AS THE GOWNS WILL MELT!** (One suggestion often made is to hang the gown up in a bathroom and to let the warm air from the shower slowly pull out the wrinkles.)
2. Caps are always worn straight on the head, parallel to the floor, by both men and women. (This will be adjusted as needed before you enter the Graduation area on the main floor.) **DO NOT DECORATE YOUR CAP! NO EXCEPTIONS!**
3. The tassel is always worn over the *right* temple. The tassel will be turned at the conclusion of the ceremony to show your new status as a Graduate.
4. When the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance are performed, everyone should stand. Men will remove their caps and place them under their left arms.
5. Seniors will graduate in alphabetical order. Upon hearing his/her name called, each senior will walk across the stage with your eyes on the principal to receive your diploma.
6. The diploma is received with the left hand. The principal's hand is extended to shake with the student's right hand. (LEFT HAND OVER RIGHT HAND)
7. As the diplomas are presented, a professional photographer will take your picture. **ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER PERSON WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE PICTURES FROM THE FLOOR OF THE CONVENTION CENTER!**
8. After receiving your diploma, proceed across the stage and down the stairs and return to your seat. Follow directions of the Junior Marshals who are there to assist you. Seniors who are seated on the stage will turn right and return to their seats on stage.
9. During the recessional, it is imperative that all graduates follow the marshals and keep moving out to exit the Convention Center at the street level. Please tell your family and friends that you will meet them at the street level as you will **NOT BE ALLOWED TO RE-ENTER THE CONVENTION CENTER ONCE YOU LEAVE.**

Salisbury Street (shimmer wall side of the Convention Center)



Exhibit Hall ABC

Event: WCPSS Graduations
 Setup Instructions:
 TBD
 >> 1st priority: Hall A
 >> 2nd priority: Hall B riser
 >> 3rd priority: Hall B seating beneath rigging area in green



NOTES ABOUT ENTRY & EXIT FROM THE CONVENTION CENTER

1. Entry into the convention center can be made at numerous locations **NO SOONER THAN 60 MINUTES BEFORE COMMENCEMENT**, however once in the building access to the convention floor is restricted.
2. Graduates will need to use **entry point C** to access the convention floor where the Graduate Assembly Area is.
3. Parents/Family/Friends will need to use **entry point A** to access the convention floor where the General Seating Area is.
4. Handicapped guests will need to use **entry point B** to access the convention floor where the Handicap Seating Area is.
5. Once the Commencement has begun, please refrain from movement so as to limit distractions during the ceremony.
6. At the conclusion of the Commencement, please exit the convention floor the same way you entered. **YOU WILL BE PERMITTED TO GO BEHIND THE STAGE TO MEET YOUR GRADUATE, HOWEVER PLEASE MEET THEM AND EXIT!**
7. Please keep in mind that there will be a **LARGE** crowd trying to exit the floor of the Convention Center after Graduation, so **BE PATIENT!** Please move up the escalators/elevator quickly and **DO NOT STOP AT THE TOP!**

EXTRA GRADUATION TICKET REQUEST FORM

If you need more tickets to Graduation, please fill out the bottom part of this page and return it to Remaley (room 2618). There is a **limited number** of extra tickets available so please keep requests reasonable! We will do our best to honor your request.

Thanks!

Chris Remaley, Senior Class Advisor

cremaley@wcpss.net

Do you get the Senior Remind text message alerts?

Text the message: @remaley-7 to 81010

TO SIGN UP! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

EXTRA GRADUATION TICKET REQUEST FORM

Please print CLEARLY!

Name of Graduate _____

Number of EXTRA tickets requested _____ *(Keep in mind you get 7 tickets already!)*

(optional) Reason for the request _____

You will be notified by phone call OR e-mail no later than Friday, May 19th informing you of the number of tickets your Graduate will be receiving at the Graduation Rehearsal on Thursday, May 25th.

Phone # _____ e-mail _____

Please print CLEARLY!