

Greenwich High School - 12th Grade Parent Meeting
Meeting Notes
April 9, 2019

Karen Foster, Director of Student Activities

Graduation is Monday June 17th - *Rain or Shine*

Shine: Graduation will be held at 6:30 pm in the Cardinal Stadium. One ceremony with unlimited bleacher seating. You may bring chairs and blankets to sit on the grass.

Students must arrive 45 minutes (5:45pm) before the ceremony

Ceremony is approximately 90 minutes long

There will be a live stream of the overall graduation from Cardinal Stadium into the PAC.

Bella and Clark grads are on the visitor side and Folsom, Sheldon and Cantor are on the home side of the stadium.

Parking will be difficult due the large class size. It is available in all lots except black box theatre which is reserved for cars with handicapped stickers. Parking is not expected to be sufficient, so please carpool. There will be shuttle service from Greenwich Country Day parking lot for overflow. Also, please note the Post Road gets backed up closer to the start of the ceremony so arrive early.

Handicapped parking is in the South Lot (Black Box Theatre lot). You must have a handicapped sticker to park in this lot. You may also drop off there if you do not have a handicapped sticker but have someone who cannot walk from the parking lot. There is golf cart service to the stadium.

No high heels allowed on the field so flats or wedges must be worn.

Students will go back to their Houses after the ceremony to pick up their diplomas

Arrange a meeting spot for your grad after the ceremony. Cell service is not great around the high school.

Rain: Graduation is in the Performing Arts Center (PAC). There are two ceremonies with limited seating (2 seats per grad). Each family will be issued two tickets for use if it rains and the ceremony is inside.

The decision will be made by 1pm on the day of graduation and an email will be sent to parents.

Ceremonies:

4 pm - for students whose last names start with A to K

7:15pm - for students whose last names start with L to Z

There will be a lottery for unused seats. Details to follow.

Graduation Fee: An email was sent out in January with preliminary information on graduation and the graduation fee. The fee contributes to the graduation ceremony, cap, gown and tassel and two graduation announcements. More announcements are available for purchase. Announcements are **not** tickets to the graduation. (Tickets are only needed if it rains and the graduation is held indoors in the PAC.)

Videography and Photography: The ceremony will be videotaped and available for purchase. Also, a photograph of your grad receiving his or her diploma will be taken and available for purchase. You will receive an email after graduation.

Mailing at the end of May or beginning of June will contain your announcements, 2 rain tickets, more information on graduation, the videography, and the photography.

Graduation Rehearsal will be on June 14th at 1:15. Students must report to their homerooms. Rehearsal is approximately 45 minutes

Cap and gown pick up will be immediately after rehearsal in the Student Center

- Must have all clear slip from the house to pick up cap and gown
- “All Clear” means students have taken care of any obligations such as lost books, uniforms, chromebooks, etc.
- Senior Obligations will be posted outside your House the week of June 10th and seniors are expected to resolve all obligations before they go out on internship or project work. This is the Seniors responsibility and not the parents.
- All Clear slips are handed out by House Secretary to the students, not the parents.

Senior Prom will be held on June 1st at the Greenwich Hyatt, 6:30 to 10:30. Students must arrive by 8pm. A letter regard Prom tickets sales and details will be out soon.

Yearbooks are almost sold out. Order now to get one. Go to yearbookforever.com to purchase one.

3 Big Takeaways:

- **Pre-arrange a meeting place**
- **Carpool**
- **Carpool**

Rick Piotrkowski, Headmaster

(Spoke on behalf of Judy Nedell, Directory of Guidance)

College: May 1st is the deadline for college decisions. If you are having trouble deciding, please see your Guidance Counselor. Once you decide, please let the schools that you do not plan to attend know and make your deposit. On June 20th or 21st grades will be processed and a final transcript will be sent to the school you choose to attend. Only one school will receive your

final transcript. The only exception is if you are waitlisted at your first choice college and then you can have a second school receive your final transcript.

Internships/Senior Projects: There will be a mandatory Senior Internship and Project Meeting on Wednesday, April 24th from 8:00am to 8:30am and on April 25th during OB to meet with your Guidance Counselor, learn your Internship mentor, and receive your packet. Senior Internships are like a job and you will work out your hours with your employer. If you are sick, don't call the school, call your internship. You must make up the hours. The log of your hours is part of the Graduation Requirements. Senior Internships start on May 20th and end on June 13th. Interns are required to work 6 hours a day. If there are issues with your internship, contact your mentor. Senior Projects are due on Thursday, June 13th and they will be displayed in the Student Center that morning.

Mary Childs, GHS PTA Grad Party Chair/12th Grade Coordinator

Graduation Party: Please support the Graduation Party to be held in the GHS Gym on Monday night, June 17th from 10:00pm to 2:00am. The party is funded by parents, the PTA and friends. It includes giant inflatables, arcade games, DJ/Dancing, Photo Booth, Ping Pong, Garden Catering, candy bar, and multiple raffle items such as HD TVs, Air pods, Apple watches, speakers, and a MacBook Pro. Approximately 75% of our grads attends this party and it is the last time they will be together as a class. It is free to all graduating Seniors. A ticket will be included with their Cap and Gowns. Please bring the ticket and student ID to the party. The Grads will be breathalyzed so skip the celebratory drink at dinner. **Go to your myschoolbucks.com account to donate.**

Lawn Signs: Personalized lawn signs are available for purchase to celebrate your child's graduation. You can buy as many as you want. The price is one for \$30 and two for \$50. If your child uses a nickname, put the nickname in the comment section. Please note only the names can be personalized. Profits from lawn signs sales support the grad party. **Go to myschoolanywhere.com to purchase your lawn signs.**

VIP Graduation Parking Spot: 5 parking spots were auctioned off from April 9th to April 10th. All of the parking spots were sold (thank you!) and the funds will be donated to the Grad Party.

Rick Piotrkowski, Headmaster

This class has demonstrated great leadership and is supportive group of students.

Data Points:

- This year 674 student will graduate. It is one the bigger classes in 10 years.
- 94.1 Seniors have taken at least one AP Exam with a score of 3 or higher.
- 281 inducted into National Honor Society and one of the highest in years.

School Spirit:

- Senior dress up day was one of the best in years.
- SRO was success and the class united and come together to put on the show. Over 100 students participated.
- Attendance at games, concerts and theatre was high this year demonstrating their support of each other.

Stressful time for Seniors:

- Making college choices
- Thinking about leaving home
- Awards programs and disappointments
- Loneliness
- Time for parents to let go

GHS has a supportive network of Psychologists, Assistant Deans, SROs and Social Workers in each house. Please reach out to either them or a Guidance Counselor for help. Also, students can contact [AnonymousAlerts.com/greenwichps](https://www.anonymousalerts.com/greenwichps) if they have a concern about a classmate or themselves.

Also, a time to make wise decisions:

- Senior internship and projects are a graduation requirement
- AP Exams can count towards college credits
- Senior Skip Day
- Senior Prank
- Be safe

Thank you to all those who attended and feel free to contact any of the speakers with questions.