



## STAPLES HIGH SCHOOL

70 North Avenue • Westport, Connecticut 06880-2799

MR. STAFFORD W. THOMAS, JR. JD  
Principal

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April 2024

## Graduation Information and Expectations

Dear Parents:

At this moment in our preparations, I would like to share with you some thoughts relative to our graduation program on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm (Rain date is Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup>) in the **Staples High School Football Stadium**.

The Staples Graduation Committee has established the following guidelines for the graduation ceremony, and we would appreciate both your cooperation and support. I ask that you discuss the items below with your son/daughter and impress upon them our resolve to have a joyful and meaningful exercise.

**All students should report to their assigned Connections rooms at 5:15pm. A Connections list will be posted in the front lobby of the main entrance and in the side, parent drop off lobby.**

1. All students are expected to dress appropriately for this special occasion. **No heels** will be allowed on the field.
2. Any students arriving at the graduation ceremony under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substances will be removed and not allowed to participate. Parents should not host pre-graduation parties where alcohol is consumed.
3. We expect proper decorum will be maintained by all students participating in the graduation ceremony. Beach balls, water guns, and streamers are not allowed. Again, any students exhibiting inappropriate behavior will be removed from the ceremony.
4. Any student with an outstanding accountability **will not** receive graduation tickets or their cap & gown. Parents can inquire about their son/daughter's accountabilities by calling 203-341-1280.
5. Families with a graduating senior will receive **FOUR (4)** tickets. This year, tickets will be distributed on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> after the 1<sup>st</sup> graduation rehearsal for those students without accountabilities. Please do **not** call the office to reserve tickets.
6. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graduation rehearsal will be on June 6<sup>th</sup> on the football field. Distribution of cap & gown in the gym after the rehearsal for those students without accountabilities.

7. Handicapped parking will be provided to the left of the pool entrance with handicapped permits ONLY.
8. Parking will be available both at Staples High School and at Bedford Middle School. Please do not park on local streets. We will begin promptly at 6:00 pm.
9. Staples High School has made arrangements to provide a photographic service during the commencement exercises. Their special equipment and location at the graduation ceremonies enable them to photograph each graduate just at the moment of diploma conferral. There will be no obligation to buy photos they will be available, however, if you wish to purchase them. The photography company will contact you by mail.

Access to the Stadium will be through the **3 entrances** listed below:

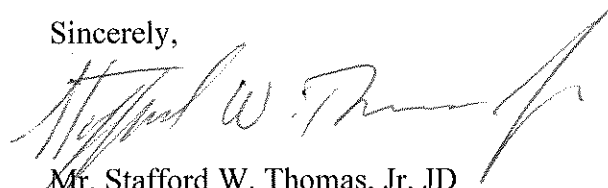
#1- We have a handicap ramp and seating at the upper part of the stadium. The easiest access point to that area would be the parking lot by the pool/closest to Bedford Middle School. Parents in a wheelchair or walker can come down the driveway; the ramp is visible from that driveway.

#2- The stairwell/entrance to field under the bridge (**this is at midfield of the stadium and across from Staples Football Locker Room door #33**).

#3- The stairwell directly behind the baseball field (**directly across from the Fitness Center Exit door #38**). **This will also be the stairwell where our students march down when they enter the stadium.**

Many hours have gone into preparing for this culminating event in your child's life at Staples. Please help us make this day one to be proud of and fondly remembered. I appreciate your anticipated support and hope you will impress upon your graduate our expectations for this cherished occasion. Go Wreckers!

Sincerely,



Mr. Stafford W. Thomas, Jr. JD  
Principal

*Mission Statement:*

*The Staples High School community inspires learning, fosters integrity and nurtures empathy.*