

Graduation 2026



February 2026

Dear Seniors of the Class of 2026,

The Grand Blanc High School graduation ceremony is just around the corner. Let me congratulate you on your upcoming achievement.

This packet is being provided as a means of helping you navigate the busy spring of your graduation year. Hopefully this information helps you coordinate all the various activities, fees and commitments of your upcoming graduation. Perhaps it may even answer questions you did not know you had.

I am so excited to share the last few months of high school with each of you. I have had the opportunity to meet many of you and I have been thoroughly impressed with this graduating class. You exemplify the tradition of excellence that is Grand Blanc High School and I encourage you to finish the year with class and dignity. While I am certain no one in the class of 2026 would make a poor choice to end their high school experience, I am obligated to remind each of you that the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook remains applicable through the day of graduation. There is no more unpleasant meeting than the one where a student and their family are informed they are being denied access to commencement exercises as the result of a student's poor choice.

Commencement will be held Thursday, May 28, 2026. We are excited to announce that this year's commencement ceremony will take place here on campus at the Don Batchelor Field. We look forward to hosting all of our graduates and their guests in our traditional graduation ceremony.

If parents or students have any questions after reading the enclosed material, please feel free to contact your class advisors Mr. Harig and Mrs. Eichelberger, your school counselor, or an administrator. It is our goal to make the end of your high school journey as memorable and enjoyable as possible.

I sincerely hope that you reflect positively upon your experience at Grand Blanc High School and you leave proud to call yourself a Bobcat.

Best wishes in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Fray".

Michael R. Fray

Upcoming Dates

Spring Senior Meeting/Letter distributed with final details	February 27
Pick up Graduation Announcements (all lunches)	March 4
Final Yearbook Sales	May 1
AP Testing	May 4-15
Last Day to Complete Credit Recovery	May 8
Senior Prom	May 9
Last Day at GCI/Skill Center for Seniors	May 13
Senior Final Exams (4th, 5th, 6th)	May 14
Senior Final Exams (1st, 2nd, 3rd)	May 15
Senior Celebration (SANP) 7:00 pm - 12:00 am	May 16
Senior Honor Awards Night (Tartoni Gym) 5:30/7:30 pm	May 20
Mandatory Senior Checkout (cap & gown, diploma, etc.) 8:30 am - 12:00 pm	May 26
Mandatory Graduation Practice 9:00 am - 11:00 am	May 28
Graduation, Don Batchelor Stadium, 7:00 pm	May 28

Important Information for Graduating Seniors and Parents/Guardians

Senior Prom: Saturday, May 9th from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. at the University of Michigan-Flint Riverfront Conference Center. Our red-carpet walk begins at 3:30 p.m. at the West High School athletic entrance where parents can line the runway and take pictures as our students model their prom attire. All students must check in at the West High School Main Entrance by 5:00 p.m. Charter buses will leave promptly at 5:30 p.m. Students must ride the provided transportation, or they will be denied entry into the prom. Students will receive a wristband before getting on the bus. No wristband = no entrance to the venue. A coat room will be available, with attendants so you will be able to check shoes or purses. The high school's Dance Regulations & Dress Code will be enforced.

Senior Honor Awards: Wednesday, May 20th in the High School Tartoni Athletic Center.

- **5:30pm Students with last names A-K**
- **7:30pm Students with last names L-Z**

Students will be acknowledged for exceptional academic performance which may include local scholarships, awards, and honor cords. Seniors with a GPA of 3.5-4.0+ are eligible for GOLD cords and seniors with a GPA between 3.0-3.49 are eligible for SILVER cords. Participation is by invitation and is based on 7th-semester cumulative grades. **Students should arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled start time.** Students should wear school appropriate business attire (no jeans or flip-flops).

Members of the National Honor Society who have completed the necessary volunteer hours will be receiving their stoles prior to the award ceremony and are encouraged to wear their stoles to Honors Night. **Only those academic honors cords or stoles that are awarded by Grand Blanc High School will be allowed to be worn at graduation. This includes cords awarded to Early College students.**

Attendance Contracts: Senior attendance contracts will be reviewed by administration on May 8, 2026. Status of contracts will be relayed by email prior to exams.

Credit Recovery: Credit Recovery students must complete all Credit Recovery courses by May 8th, 2026, or will need to make up those credits in summer school.

Senior Finals: May 14 and 15, (Thursday and Friday). All students are expected to follow the school's current published schedule. Students must leave the building when their exams are finished. This only applies to students who are face-to-face. The schedule is as follows:

THURSDAY, MAY 14	
4 th Hour	10:38 - 12:08
5 th Hour	12:14 - 1:12
6 th Hour	1:18 - 2:16

FRIDAY, MAY 15	
1 st Hour	7:20 - 8:24
2 nd Hour	8:30 - 9:28
3 rd Hour	9:34 - 10:32

***Students will be released from school and are expected to leave the building at 10:35am on Friday, May 15.**

Senior All Night Party: The Senior All Night Party (SANP) is a long standing, fun-filled, parent and community sponsored event with the goal of providing a fun and safe environment for our seniors to celebrate the completion of their high school classes. The event will be held at Grand Blanc High School Tartoni Center. There will be a huge Casino, Carnival games, Caricaturists, Fortune Tellers, Bingo, Dodgeball, BubbleBall, Laser Tag, Cornhole, Hypnotist, Photo Booth, eSports, Food, and LOTS OF PRIZES! These special final memories will last a lifetime! Tickets are purchased through [SchoolPay](#). Log in to your family account and scroll to Senior All Night Party to purchase your ticket and t-shirt. Order soon to guarantee your shirt. (If conflicts require a student to come late, contact Yasmeen Youngs at yyoungs1@yahoo.com to coordinate arrival). Students, please bring your GBHS student IDs with you! **Date:** Saturday, May 16, 2026 **Time:** 7:00pm-12:00am

Financial Obligations and Fees: Students must clear up all financial obligations (book fines, patron fines, etc.) prior to graduation. The library will be collecting textbooks, calculators, library books, and Chromebooks May 13th-22nd. Fine notices will be sent to students and parents via library email on Monday, May 18th; this will give seniors one more week before the cap and gown distribution on Tuesday, May 26th to return materials and settle their Destiny account. Cash, credit card, and payments through SchoolPay will be accepted, no checks. Any student who still has a device/case/charger, books/calculators, or owes any fines to the school will not receive their cap & gown and diploma until the obligation is met. If you have questions, please contact the high school library at 591-6666.

Mandatory Pre-Commencement Activities:

There are two mandatory activities to prepare for commencement:

1. **Mandatory Senior Checkout - All Seniors (F2F and BV) - Tuesday, May 26th, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**, in the East High School gym. At Check Out Students will receive their cap and gown, and their diploma (a diploma case will be handed to each student at commencements). **All school fines must be paid prior to arrival.**
2. **Mandatory Commencement Rehearsal - Thursday, May 28 (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.) Beginning in the Tartoni.** This is a mandatory graduation rehearsal on the morning of commencement. Student seating for commencement will be determined and students will practice walking through the order of ceremony.

Graduation Ceremony: To be held Thursday, May 28, 7:00pm. The opportunity to celebrate this milestone in our graduate's lives on the campus where they worked hard to achieve their goals and made so many lifelong memories is a wonderful experience. This year we will hold our graduation ceremony on the Don Batchelor Field on Thursday, May 28, 2026. Tickets will not be required for entry, unless the ceremony is delayed and moved indoors (see more information on inclement weather planning below)

A few key points to know as you plan for commencement:

- We will have one commencement ceremony with all of our 2026 graduates beginning promptly at 7:00pm.

- Seniors will report to the Tartoni Center no later than 6:00pm.
- Guest seating will be on a first-come basis. The home side of the stadium can seat 5000 and the away side will seat an additional 1000.
- Concessions will be available for water and snacks. No coolers will be admitted.
- This is a formal event. Please do not bring horns or other noise makers.
- The ceremony will be livestreamed. A link will be emailed to senior parents prior to the event. The link will also be on the high school website on the day of the event.
- Flowers are available to order in advance and pick up on the stadium upper deck. A limited supply will be available to purchase on-site. [Link to Order Graduation Flowers and Bears](#).

Inclement Weather Planning:

-[Plan A](#) - Weather permitting, Commencement will be held Thursday 5/28 at the Don Batchelor Field.

-[Plan B](#) - Weather isn't cooperating on 5/28, but prediction is clear for 5/29, we will move the ceremony to 5/29, same time/place.

-[Plan C](#) - Commencement *in the Tartoni* 5/29. Each student will be allowed four guests. Tickets will be included in the items picked up at senior checkout 5/26. Plan C decision will be made by the evening of 5/28.

Student Dress for Commencement: Graduation is a formal affair and we expect all students to dress accordingly. Gowns should be fully zipped for the duration of the graduation ceremony. Only academic cords or stoles awarded by Grand Blanc High School are to be worn at graduation. This includes gold and silver cords - awarded for academics, National Honor Society stoles, and Early College cords - awarded to GBHS Students for their academic excellence while dual enrolled at the University of Michigan. All other cords or stoles, awarded by an outside agency, will not be allowed at graduation. In order to maintain a professional and uniform appearance, **there will be no painting/bedazzling of graduation caps.**

Commencement Student Speakers: Each year we have the opportunity to hear from our student body at the commencement ceremony. Their recap of their experiences and outlook on the future are always refreshing and affirm that our community has them prepared to make a positive difference in the world. If you are interested in speaking at commencement, please complete the [Student Commencement Speaker Form](#) by 4/6/2026.

Final Transcripts: Seniors must request final transcripts through [Parchment.com](#) for the college they will be attending in the fall before the school year ends, if the college requires one. Colleges applied for using the Common Application all require final transcripts.

The Genesee Opportunity (GO) stipend provides Genesee County high school graduates with money for college, career training, or certification licensing fees. To be eligible, you must reside in Genesee County, Michigan or on a property that is taxed by a Genesee County school district and be a graduate from a high school in Genesee County. Graduates must be enrolled in an eligible training program or post-secondary educational institution and submit an application by the due date. Please follow the link for further information and application instructions. [genesee.org](#)

The Class of 2026 Video is available for purchase for \$30. It contains the Senior Honors Night and Graduation. The flash drive may be ordered online through School Pay. [Class of 2026 Video Order Form Link](#)

Senior Exit Survey - Help Improve the High School Experience! Please complete the [Senior Exit Survey](#). The survey is designed to collect data regarding future plans following high school, the quality of their high school experience, and factors that have contributed to the student's post-high school plans and goals. Based on this feedback, schools will be able to make adjustments to programming and opportunities for students.

Please confirm the completion of the following **graduation requirements**. These items were reviewed during our senior meeting and must be completed prior to senior checkout or students will not be able to receive their cap & gown and diploma:

1. [Educational Development Plan \(EDP\)](#),
2. [Genesee Go Application](#),
3. [Senior Exit Survey](#)