FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
INNOVATION
ACADEMY

Senior Meeting Part 3

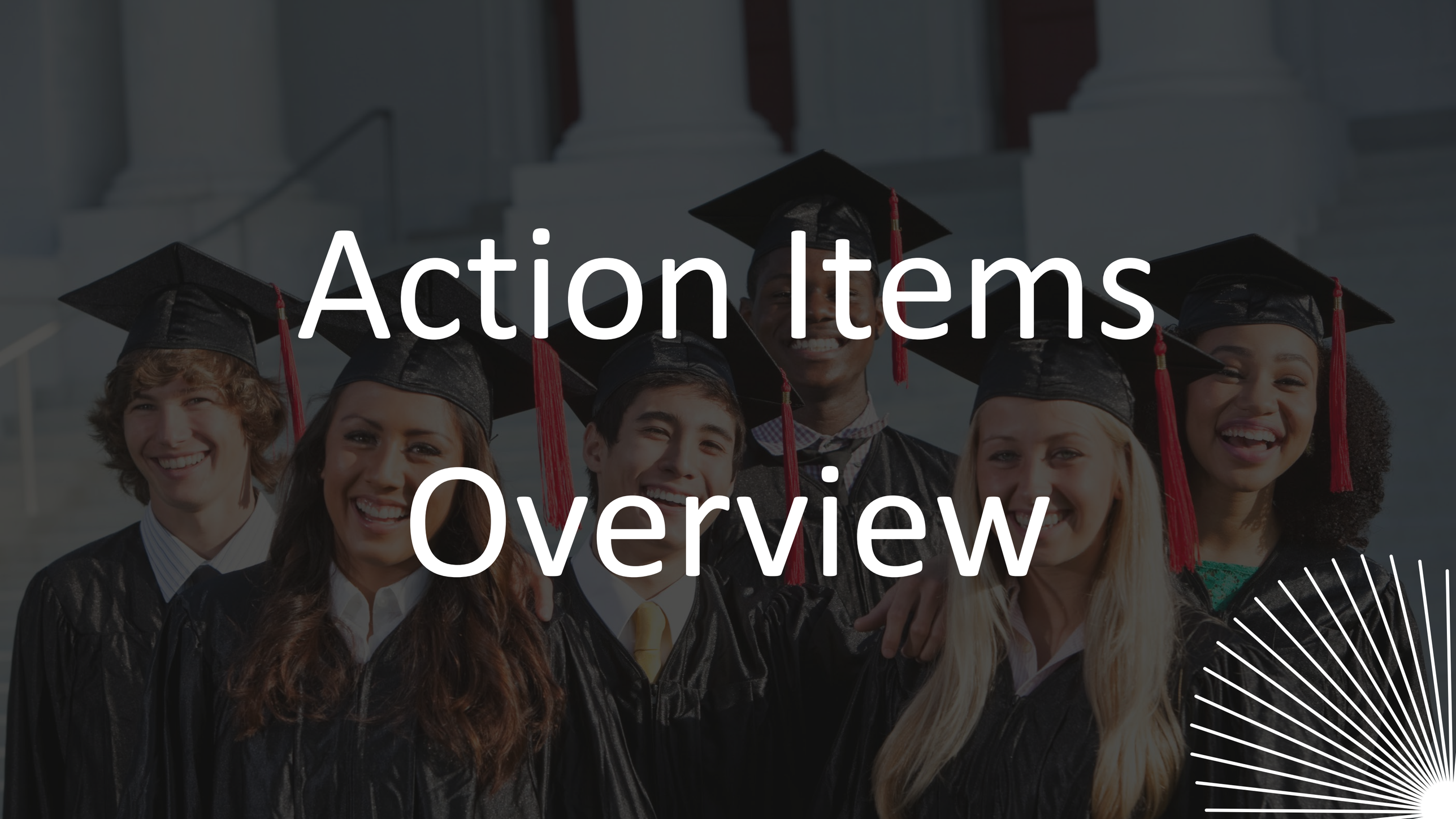
Class of 2026





Agenda for Today

- Overview of Action Items
- May 8th Activities/ Senior Checkout
- Graduation Rehearsal
- Graduation Ceremony



Action Items Overview

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Class of ‘24



University of Georgia

Political Science (Pre-Law Track) Major

We are excited to announce our 2026 Senior Commitments!

- **Please share your plans @IA_Seniors**.
- This site will serve as the “official” site for our students to display their commitments and/or next steps.

Deadline to submit post 5/11

- **Follow and share the @IA_Seniors Instagram page**
- **Please complete the form in the Instagram Bio:**
- Include a recent Photo with your commitment swag(college or military),
- All submissions will be used for IA graduation publications/events.
- **All posts are voluntary.**
- For questions, please reach out to Niki McKenzie.

@IA_Seniors Commitment Page

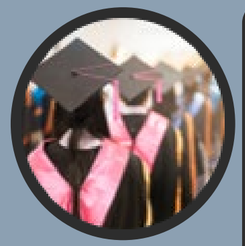




If you have not already done so, pick up your cap and gown and yard sign at the counseling office.



Senior Walk information can be viewed on the counseling website . Please check this link for updated information. Questions regarding the walks should be directed to the participating schools. Senior Walks



- Senior Only Textbook Drop off will happen in the Hanger during the week of May 4th
- All books that are not turned in will be assessed a fine and will prevent you from successfully completing Senior Checkout
- An email will be sent the week before listing all books assigned to you

Letter to IA Staff

Take a moment to thank some IA staff members who have made a positive or memorable impact on your time in high school. We will have a mailbox outside of counseling for you to drop your hand-written or typed letter. These will be delivered before graduation practice so make sure to submit your letter by Friday, May 8th at Senior Checkout!



Join the IA Alumni Network:

"Where Alumni Return to Inspire."



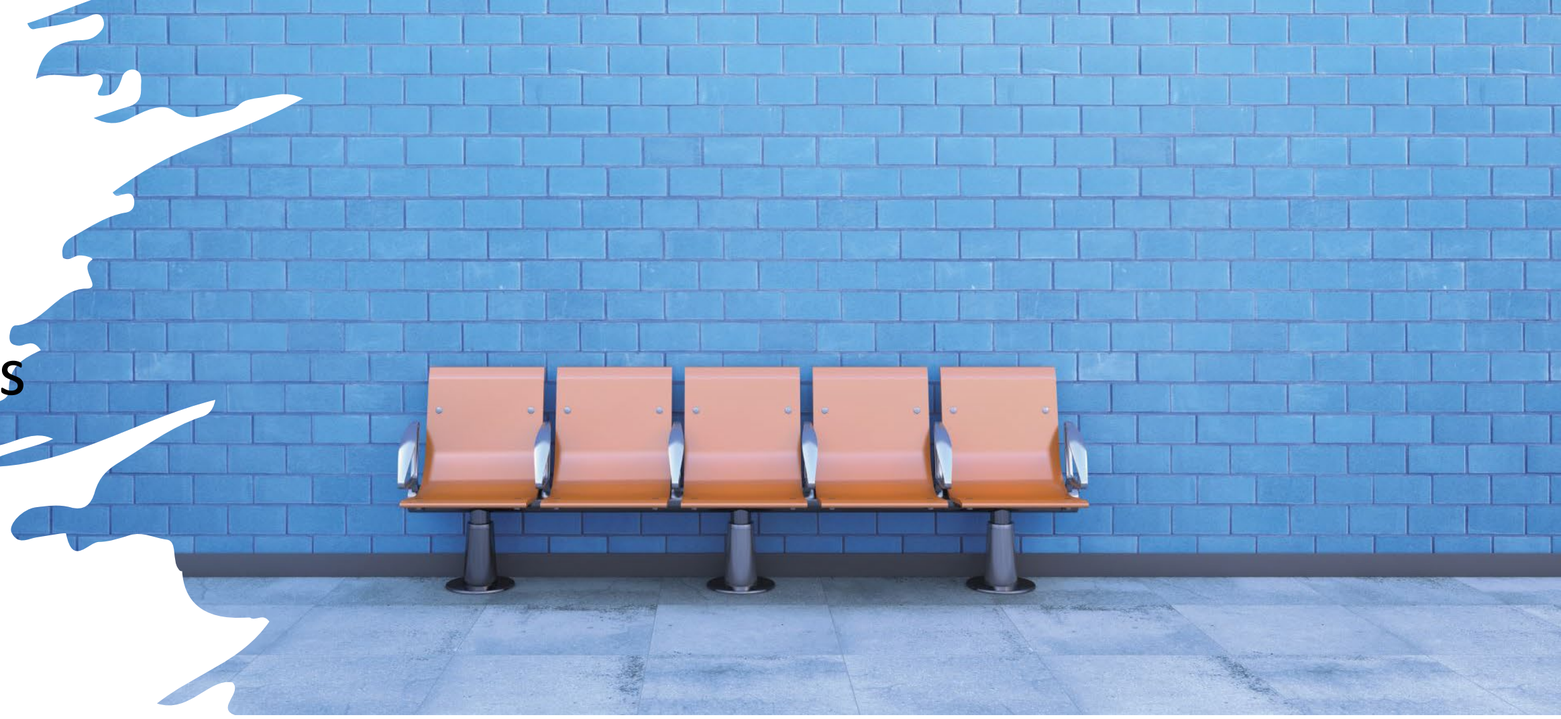
Stay Connected – Here's Why it is Worth it:

- **Keep the IA Connection-** **Stay linked** with teachers and staff who supported you and everything happening at IA.
- **Give Back-** **Volunteer** for Flex Fridays, help at IA events or mentor current students.
- **Share Your Post Graduation Experience-** Host a college or military visit and give students the real scoop on your **Real-World Experience**!



Scan the QR Code to join!

ADA seating and accommodations will be available at graduation.



Families requesting accessible seating must reserve the space by reaching out to Niki McKenzie at mckenzien1@fultonschools.org by 5/14/2026.

If you know that you have a family member that will require ADA Seating, please scan the QR code to reserve a spot. Space is limited, so please request your space asap.



Graduation Tickets:

Families and friends do not need to RSVP to Innovation Academy.

Each graduate receives 10 tickets at the end of the Graduation Rehearsal.

If you or your family needs to purchase additional tickets, please use this link: Graduation Tickets 2026



Blue Envelopes:

Honor Your Senior with the Blue Envelope Tradition

Innovation Academy proudly continues one of its most meaningful senior traditions—the *Blue Envelope*. This special initiative gives family and friends the opportunity to celebrate our graduating Class of 2026 with heartfelt words of encouragement, pride, and love.

How It Works:

Participating is simple, but meaningful:

Invite family and friends to write cards or letters congratulating your senior.

Have all cards and letters mailed or delivered to your home.

Collect everything into **one large envelope** clearly labeled with your student's **first and last name and student ID**.

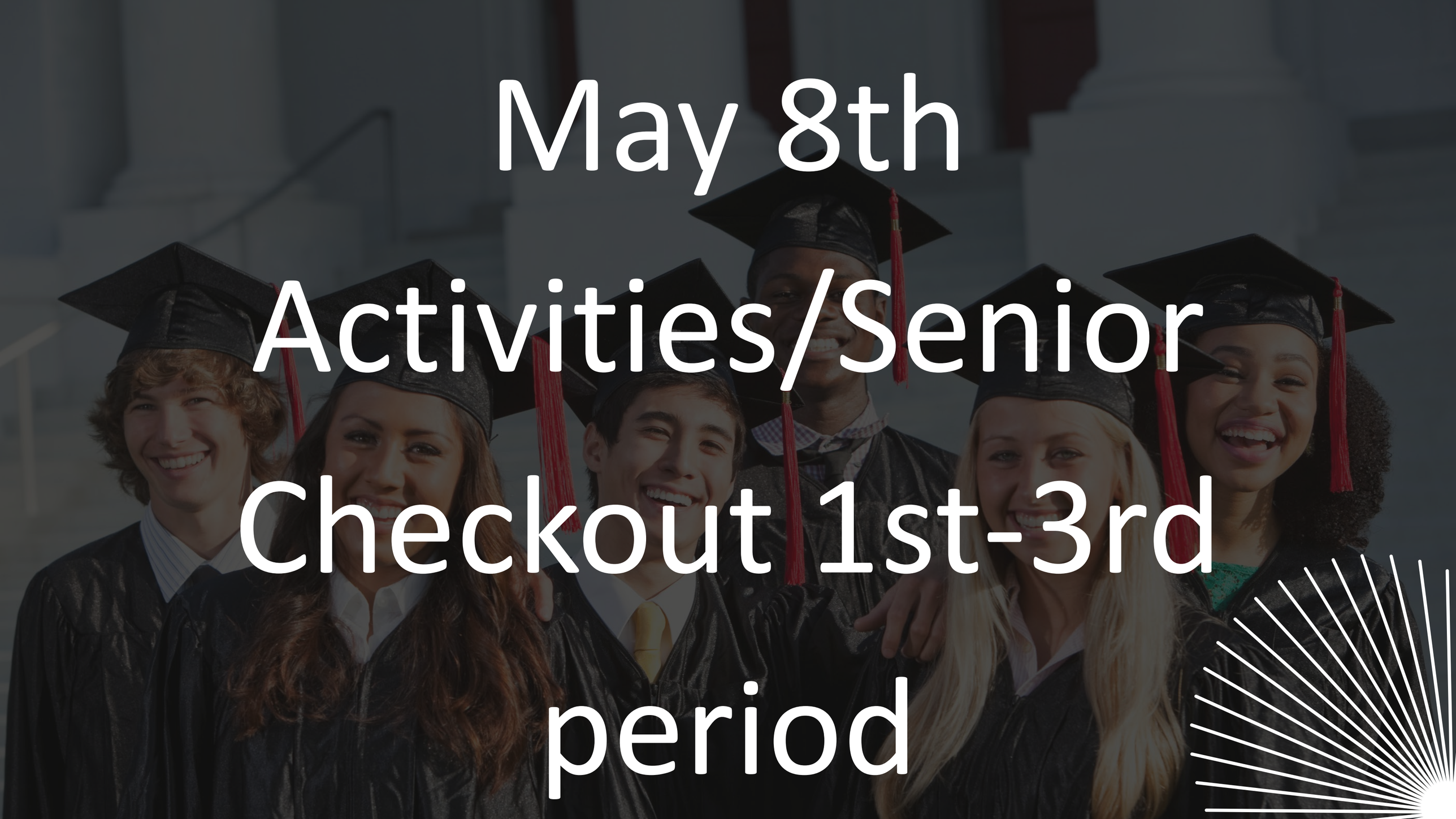
Deliver the completed envelope to Innovation Academy during the week of **April 20–24** and place it in the office bins marked "Blue Envelopes."

Important Guidelines

Do not include money or gifts All items must be no larger than **8.5 x 11 inches**.

All envelopes must be submitted by the close of business on April 24.

Please note: This deadline is firm, and no late submissions will be accepted under any circumstances.



May 8th Activities/Senior Checkout 1st-3rd period

Class of 2026 Senior Exit Checklist

- Return Laptops & Chargers
- Return Textbooks and library books
- Name Pronunciation - IA All Student Canvas
- Schoolinks – Senior End of Year Activity
- Scholarship Awards Survey
- Complete Final Transcript Request
    - Alumni Questionnaire
- Clear Fines: Devices, Media, Textbooks
- GA Futures SSN Updated



What If I Can Not Clear All Items On May 8th?

- Seniors who do not finish their checklist on May 8th can not be cleared for graduation:
  - Keeping Device for AP Exam or Make Up Work
  - Needing to Pay A Fine
  - Etc. Etc.

  BUT This is ok!

- **When you are ready to finish your checklist:**
  - Go to Counseling Office
  - Pick Up Checklist Form
  - Do any and all activities and receive signatures on that form
  - Return form back to counseling office
  - This form is how Ms. Lundy knows to clear you for graduation!!!!!!!!! (not emails, phone calls, etc.)

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS PROTOCOL WILL RESULT IN LARGE DELAYS TO YOU BEING CLEARED

What Is Senior Clearance? How Does It Work?

- **Senior Clearance – manually clearing each student for graduation**
  - Once cleared, you are allowed to pick up your graduation tickets that will be distributed at graduation practice

- **How do I get cleared?**
  - **Academics** – do we have the correct evidence that you have passed all classes needed for graduation?
    - This can mean we are waiting on FVS grades, GAVS grades, In Person Classes, and/or Dual Enrollment transcripts – Screen shots are not allowed!
    - Dual enrollment grades can sometimes be late!
  - **Senior Clearance Items** – computers, fines, textbooks
    - If you have to keep your laptop for an AP exam, you will be cleared once the exam is complete



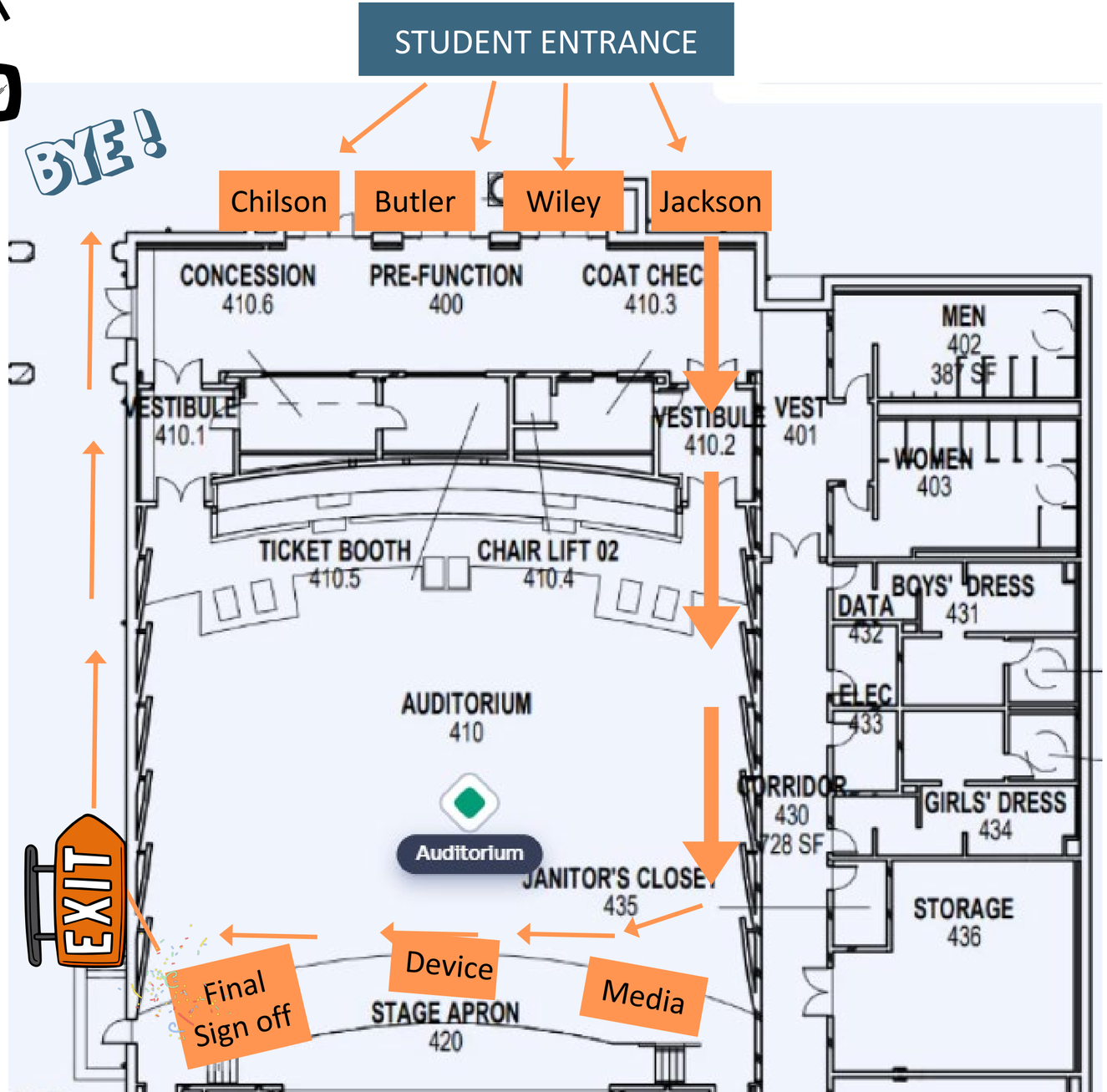
When does this happen?

- The first email goes out on Friday, May 8th – usually pretty late after processing all items from the day
- An update is sent everyday until graduation

I am not cleared – I AM FREAKING OUT!

- We have never had a senior not clear. Be patient. Follow all procedures.
  - Example: Don't drop your computer off to a random person – follow protocol!!

Location and Layout



May 8th
1st-3rd period

Class of 2026 Senior Exit Forms Due 5/1

Senior Exit Survey (District mandate in Schoolinks. Access through Classlink)

Access through Classlink!

Proof of Scholarships received (Not including HOPE/Zell Miller)



https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/biYX2cLDaF

Final Transcript Request



https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/jQC1nEepFN



Graduation Rehearsal

Graduation Practice

Ameris Amphitheatre, Tuesday May

12, 2026, at 3:00 pm.

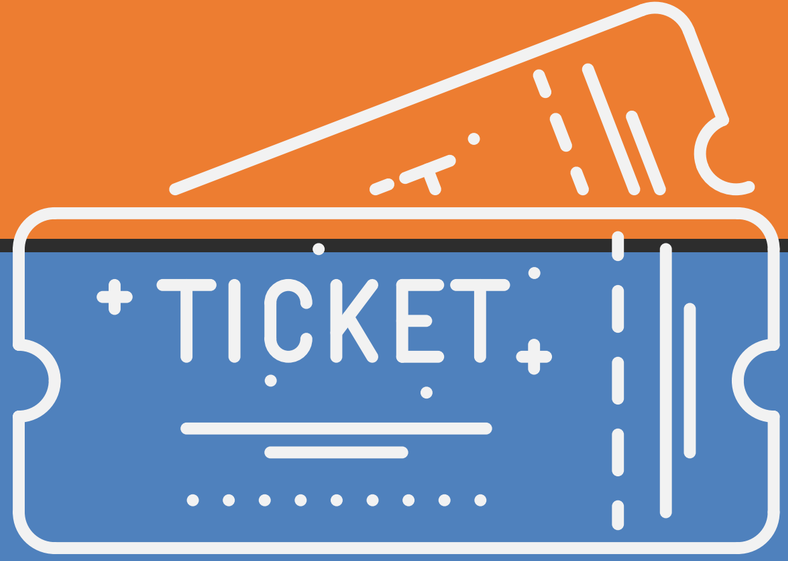
11450 Maxwell Road, park in Lot C

- Arrive no later than 2:45pm.
- Mandatory for ALL students participating in graduation ceremony. Tickets will be distributed at rehearsal.
- Students will be called on stage with the name listed in Infinite Campus.

WEAR YOUR COLLEGE T-SHIRT FOR THE



Graduation Tickets



Graduation Practice:

- We will distribute tickets at practice
- Each graduating senior will receive 10 tickets!
- Additional purchased tickets will be included in your envelope
- Before receiving your tickets, you must be cleared of any outstanding school fines and have completed the Senior Checkout

Graduation Ceremony:

- Each individual attending will be required to have their own ticket with the exception of:
  - Graduating seniors
  - Toddlers not occupying their own seat

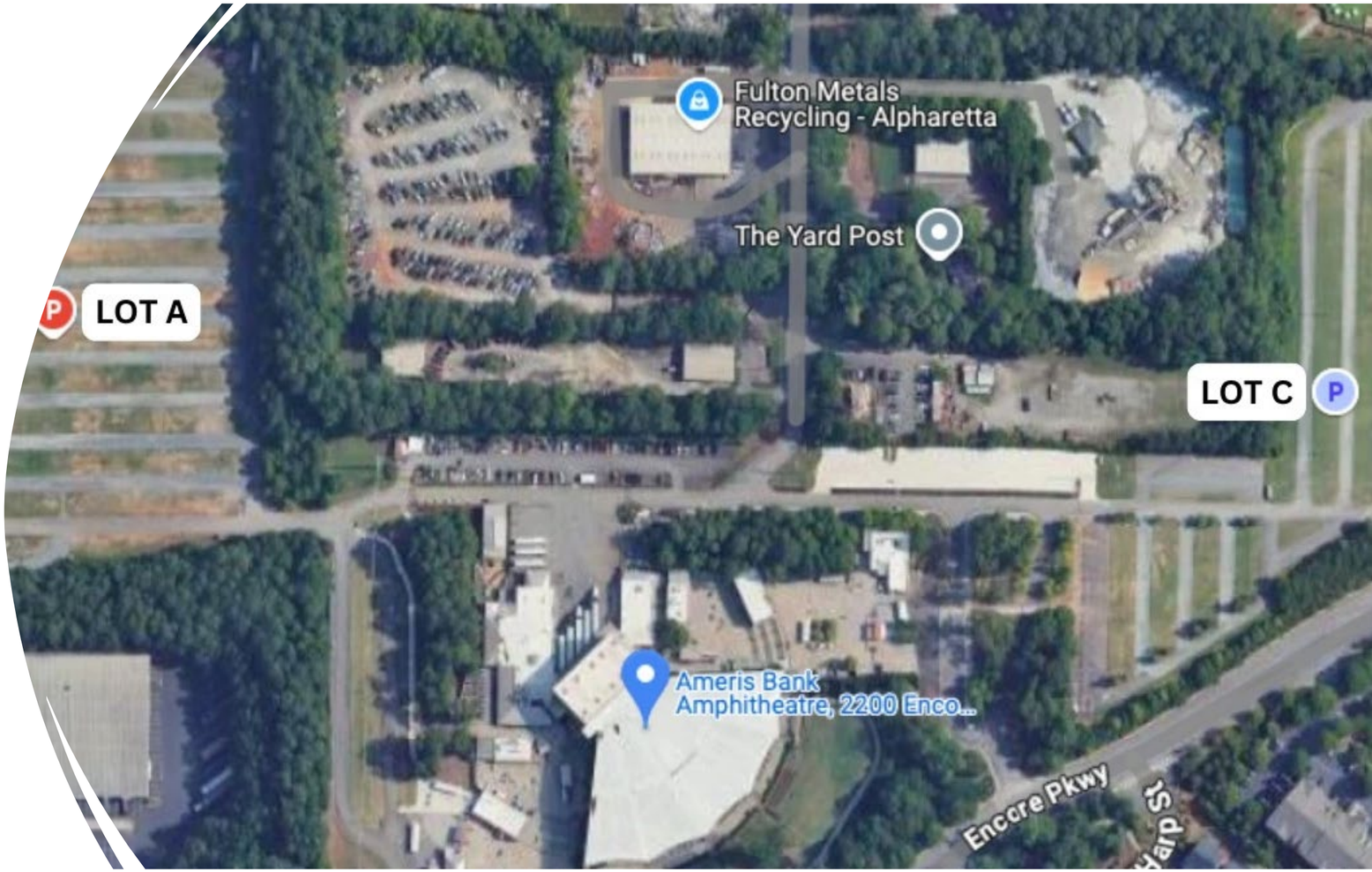


Graduation Ceremony

Parking

- **Students park in LOT C:**
- 11450 Maxwell Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30009
- Graduates should arrive no later than 11:30a.m. in their cap and gown.
- Don't bring purses, backpacks, change of shoes.

- **Parents park in LOT A:**
- 1775 Founders Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30009
- Gates open at 12pm



Dress Code

- Dressy attire with cap & gown. **Make sure you wear attire that blends with the gown (see picture)**
- Avoid sandals, flip flops, hiking boots, or tennis shoes.
- Gowns and caps may not be modified or altered in any way.
- All regalia (cords and pins), must be approved and provided through the sponsor of a school-approved organization.



Venue Policy

- Ameris Amphitheatre is a clear bag facility.
- Ameris will allow clear plastic, clear vinyl or clear PVC tote bags no larger than 12” x 6” x 12” and/or small clutch bags (6”x 9”).
- In addition to bag checks, Ameris must tag all oversized/diaper bags and camera bags to provide a visual that they have been checked
- Graduates should bring just identification/driver’s licenses, car keys, and cell phones (if preferred).
- Concession stands will be open.
- Lawn will be closed.



The Commencement Group

- New: The Commencement Group is partnering with Fulton County Schools.
- They are a flower fundraising service on-site at graduation ceremonies.
- Pre-order from their website or buy on-site.
- A link will be added to the senior graduation tile on the school’s website.



Cady Studio

- Cady Studios will have photographers at Ameris Bank to capture important moments including candid shots and pictures of you receiving your diploma



Questions?

Contact:

Agnes Browning, AP:
browningaa@fultonschools.org

Wanda Moran, Head Counselor:
moranw@fultonschools.org