



GOVERNOR MIFFLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The year has flown by, and we are very busy preparing for the big day! **Commencement 2026** will be held at the Santander Arena in Reading on **Friday, May 22, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** It is imperative that all seniors adhere to arrival times for our **two** Commencement practices, as well as the actual Commencement ceremony; therefore, please take a few minutes along with your child to review the following information very thoroughly.

**Events starred at the end of the description are going to be livestreamed on the Governor Mifflin Audio Video Club Youtube channel.

Important Dates (click on each bookmark for specific information)

- ❖ **Wednesday, May 13**
 - All [senior obligations](#) must be paid in-full or items returned to Ms. Barboza in the main office
 - ABSOLUTE LATEST MAY 15TH
- ❖ **Thursday, May 14**
 - Last day for the 2025/2026 rim run bus
- ❖ **Friday, May 15**
 - All library books/materials must be returned to the library.
 - LAST DAY to take care of any obligations
- ❖ **Saturday, May 16**
 - Junior/Senior Prom; DoubleTree by Hilton Head Reading; 6:00-10:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Monday, May 18**
 - [Senior Awards Ceremony](#); GMHS auditorium; 6:30 p.m. **
- ❖ **Tuesday, May 19**
 - Seniors last day at GMHS.
 - GM Music Department Awards Ceremony, GMHS auditorium; 6:00 p.m. **
 - Seniors last day at BCTC **unless** a senior student needs additional hours. All additional hours must be approved by the student's BCTC instructor.
- ❖ **Wednesday, May 20**
 - [First mandatory Commencement practice](#) and senior parades, GM Intermediate School, 7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **ALL SENIORS must check in at GMIS starting promptly at 7:30 a.m.**; practice begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. The annual senior class photo will take place at this practice; all seniors are encouraged to dress their best!
 - **All-Sports Ceremony**; GMHS auditorium; 6:30 p.m. ****Please contact Mr. Gusieppe if any questions**
- ❖ **Thursday, May 21**
 - [Second mandatory Commencement practice](#); Santander Arena, 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **ALL SENIORS must check in at GMHS, in front of the auditorium, by 8:45 a.m.**; school buses depart promptly at 9:00 a.m. for Santander Arena; seniors will return to GMHS at approximately 12:15 p.m. **Please note:** your child **must** use the transportation provided by the district. Upon their return, seniors will not be allowed back into GMHS unless they have obligations to handle in the main office.
 - [Baccalaureate](#) (optional); GMHS auditorium; 7:00 p.m. **

❖ **Friday, May 22**

- **Commencement Ceremony:** Santander Arena; 6:00 p.m.; all seniors must report and enter Santander Arena's side entrance across from the DoubleTree by Hilton no later than 5:15 p.m. Guests will enter through the main entrance. **

❖ **Monday, May 25**

- Holiday

❖ **Tuesday, May 26**

- BCTC Senior Recognition Night, Santander Arena, 6:30 p.m.

NOTE: The details of each event listed below are subject to change

SENIOR OBLIGATIONS MUST BE FULFILLED – MAY 13

In order for your child to participate in the events listed within this letter, they must clear **ALL** obligations by **Wednesday, May 13, 2026**. Examples of obligations include, but are not limited to the following: outstanding activity fees; the return of textbooks, library books, and athletic uniforms; as well as pre-existing Chromebook related-fees. Please ask your child to see Ms. Barboza in the main office. If not handled by **May 15th the latest**, your student will not be able to attend prom and/or commencement practice.

SENIOR AWARDS CEREMONY – MAY 18

The annual Senior Awards Ceremony will be held in the high school auditorium on **Monday, May 18, 2026** at 6:30 p.m. At this ceremony, we will be recognizing select members of this year's graduating class for their achievements and contributions to our community. If your senior receives an invitation to attend this special event, we certainly hope you make every effort to attend, too! This year's ceremony will be streamed on the Governor Mifflin Audio Video Club Youtube channel.

FIRST MANDATORY COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE – MAY 20

- ❖ The first **mandatory** Commencement practice will be held from 8:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m on **Wednesday, May 20, 2026** at the GM Intermediate School. **ALL SENIORS must check in at GMIS starting promptly at 7:30 a.m.** As part of this practice, all seniors will parade through a GMSD elementary school, GMIS or GMMS in their caps and gowns to inspire current students to reach their graduation goal! Seniors will not be permitted back in the high school unless they are paying for an obligation.
- ❖ If your son or daughter is not present at this practice, he or she will not be permitted to participate in the Commencement ceremony on Friday, May 22, 2026. If your child is sick on the day of this Commencement practice, it will be their responsibility to reach out to either Mr. Davis or Mrs. Tragis for Commencement instructions.
- ❖ Dress Attire: To make sure each graduate has appropriate attire for Commencement, all seniors should dress for this practice as though it's Commencement. Please take note of the following guidelines for this formal occasion: females should wear a dress, skirt, or dress slacks; males should wear dress slacks, a long sleeved button down dress shirt and a tie. All seniors should wear dress shoes (sneakers, flip-flops, boots, etc. are too casual for this formal occasion). Females are encouraged NOT to wear heels on this day as we will be parading/walking immediately after practice.
- ❖ A senior group photo will be taken at this practice by CADY. They will be emailed out to seniors as well as posted on social media for universal access.
- ❖ **Distribution of caps, gowns and Commencement tickets:**
 - All obligations must be fulfilled before caps, gowns and tickets are issued to a graduating senior.
 - Each senior will receive **ten** tickets. There will be an opportunity at this practice to receive extra tickets.
 - All guests (including children) must present a ticket in order to enter the ceremony on May 22.
 - Please also understand that this is a very important occasion for your child, and the reverence of the ceremony is vital; please consider this when deciding on who will be attending the Commencement ceremony.

SECOND MANDATORY COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE - MAY 21

- ❖ The second **mandatory** Commencement practice will be held from 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. on **Thursday, May 21, 2026** at the Santander Arena. If your child is sick on the day of this Commencement practice, it will be their responsibility to reach out to Mr. Davis for Commencement instructions.
- ❖ **ALL seniors must check in at GMHS, in front of the auditorium, by 8:45 a.m.; school buses depart promptly at 9:00 a.m.,** and we will return to GMHS at approximately 12:15 p.m. **Please note:** your child **must** use the transportation provided by the district.
- ❖ If your son or daughter is not present at practice, he or she will not be permitted to participate in the Commencement ceremony
- ❖ Dress for this practice is casual. The Santander Arena can be quite cold; therefore, we suggest all students bring an extra layer.
- ❖ Seniors will not be permitted back in the high school unless they are paying for an obligation.

BACCALAUREATE – MAY 21

This event is an interfaith service for seniors, their families and the community. The service will include music, a slide show, and student, faculty and community speakers sharing reflections and words of encouragement to the senior class. It will be held on **Thursday, May 21, 2026** at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium with a reception immediately following the service. Participation in this service is optional. Parents and students have organized this service and welcome your attendance. This year's ceremony will be streamed on the Governor Mifflin Audio Video Club Youtube channel.

COMMENCEMENT – MAY 22

- ❖ Commencement begins at 6:00 p.m. **All seniors must report to Santander Arena's side entrance across from the DoubleTree by Hilton no later than 5:15 p.m.** Guests will enter through the front entrance of the arena with their ticket.
- ❖ Seniors must bring their cap and gown to COMMENCEMENT - **DO NOT IRON THE GOWN.**
- ❖ Graduate dress attire: In general, females should wear a dress, skirt, or dress slacks. Males should wear dress slacks, a long sleeved buttoned down dress shirt and a tie. All seniors should wear dress shoes - sneakers, flip-flops, and boots are not appropriate for this formal occasion. Females are to be cautious about wearing heels, since you are walking up and down stairs.
- ❖ Other than one car key, seniors are not permitted to bring additional items into Santander Arena. Please drive together with your guests/family and leave your personal items with them. All items will be confiscated and returned to the students at the conclusion of the ceremony.
- ❖ Please remember, this is a solemn occasion and catcalling, foot stomping, noise makers, etc. are completely inappropriate. You are discouraged from bringing the following into the facility: signs, balloons, gifts, etc. Santander security will remove disruptive guests.
- ❖ All guests (including children) must present a ticket in order to enter the ceremony.
- ❖ The ceremony will be broadcasted LIVE for everyone at home to watch. The livestream can be found on the Governor Mifflin Audio Video Club Youtube channel

Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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