



# MORRIS KNOLLS HIGH SCHOOL

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May 2026

Dear Seniors and Parents/Guardians,

It is with immense pride that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each member of the graduating class of 2026, as well as to their families. Your contributions to the success of Morris Knolls High School have been invaluable and you have played a significant role in shaping our school community. I encourage you to take time in the coming weeks to reflect on your achievements and experiences, while also looking ahead to the exciting opportunities that await.

As we approach the conclusion of the school year, many exciting events in the lives of seniors are planned. Enclosed in this mailing, you will find detailed information regarding these meaningful events. Please read the contents carefully so that you are fully informed of the expectations, specific dates, times, and responsibilities that constitute being part of the graduating Class of 2026.

Finally, we also ask you to remind your children about behavioral expectations for our end of year events i.e., Prom, Field Day, Graduation, in order to not jeopardize their participation in the activities. With the collective efforts of the school, parents and community, our Class of 2026 can appropriately celebrate and enjoy the conclusion of its high school career. Congratulations again to you and your child on their success at Morris Knolls High School. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you at our formal commencement ceremony on June 16, 2026.

Sincerely,

Ryan MacNaughton  
Principal

## **Schedule for Seniors - Closing Activities**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Wednesday, May 27 | Senior Awards Ceremony @ 6:30 PM in the Auditorium   |
| Thursday, May 28  | Senior Prom <a href="#">Prom Letter 2026</a> @ The Tides Estate, North Haledon @ 6:30 PM<br><a href="#">The Tides Estate</a>   |
| Friday, May 29    | Senior Field Day - Cap & Gown and Yearbook distribution. <b>Seniors are excused from classes and are to report directly to the Auditorium @ 8:30 AM.</b>   |
| Monday, June 15   | Graduation Rehearsal, Graduation Ticket Distribution, and Special Parking Pass distribution. Students with unpaid obligations will have their tickets and special parking passes withheld. <b>Seniors are excused from classes and are to report directly to the Auditorium @ 8:45 AM.</b> |

Tuesday, June 16

Commencement Ceremony @ **10:00 AM**. **Graduates must report to the Auditorium at 8:00 AM.**

Project Graduation - **Iron Peak Sports and Events Facility**  
**Departure from MK @ 6:30 PM**

[Payment for Project Graduation Event](#)  
[Iron Peak Sports & Events](#)

### **GRADUATION PARTICIPATION**

Participation in the commencement exercises is voluntary. Accordingly, students under 18 years of age may be excused by providing Mr. MacNaughton with a letter from you. **All requests not to participate must be submitted no later than May 29, 2026.**

### **SPECIAL PARKING FACILITIES**

Special parking passes will be available for individuals with disabilities, grandparents, and senior citizens who are unable to walk the full distance from the upper parking lots to Caruso Stadium.

Graduates who need a special parking pass may pick up a request form in the General Office beginning **Wednesday, May 13, and must return the completed form by Monday, June 1.** Special parking passes will be distributed at graduation rehearsal on Monday, June 15.

This special parking pass should be placed inside the left front window when approaching Knoll Drive and the entrance into Caruso Stadium. Security personnel will allow vehicles displaying this pass to be parked in the lower parking lot by the visitor's bleachers. The student and staff parking lots on campus are available on a first-come/first serve basis. Additional parking off campus will be provided with bus shuttle transportation to and from Morris Knolls. The Astro Place parking lot will be available for your use as early as 8:00 A.M. Please be respectful of the businesses that will be open for business after 8:00 A.M. Please park in the designated areas and do not block driveways or the loading docks. Be responsible for removal of litter before exiting the parking area. Thank you for your cooperation.

In recent years, traffic associated with graduation has been extremely heavy, especially on Route 46 and Franklin Avenue. You should consider arriving by 9:00 A.M. to avoid being caught in traffic and being late for the start of the procession. Please be advised that exiting campus after graduation will be a slow and gradual process to ensure the safety of our students and their families. We thank you in advance for your patience.

### **GRADUATION GUEST INFORMATION**

All seating will be on a first come first serve basis. Seating will be available on our bleachers and field area. In addition, guests will be permitted to view the ceremony standing along the fence adjacent to the field. We will also have a tent on the field reserved for senior citizens or individuals with disabilities.

In addition, we have contracted with a professional media company to live stream the ceremony for guests who cannot attend. The link will be posted on our school website and it will be sent to our families via ASPEN.

### **COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES: CARUSO STADIUM @ 10:00 AM**

The commencement exercises for the Class of 2026 will be held on Tuesday morning, **June 16, beginning at 10:00 A.M.** in Caruso Stadium. Students must arrive at the auditorium for the Graduation Commencement by **8:00 A.M.** In the event of rain/inclement weather on June 16, 2026, we will postpone the start of the ceremony until a later time on the same day. If the inclement weather is persistent throughout the day, the commencement exercises will be held in the Morris Knolls Gymnasium. Parents and students will be notified of any change via our school messenger automated call system. Let's all hope for a beautiful and glorious morning of cool weather!

## GRADUATION TICKETS

Admission to the indoor commencement exercises will be by ticket only. Graduation tickets will be distributed to prospective graduates at rehearsal on **Monday, June 15th, 2026. Seniors should report to the Auditorium at 8:45 AM.** As a reminder, graduation tickets will not be issued to seniors with outstanding obligations.

Each prospective graduate will receive four (4) WHITE TICKETS, which will only be used for an indoor ceremony in the gymnasium, and three (3) GREEN TICKETS, which will be used for additional guests to view the live streamed ceremony in the auditorium. Seniors not needing all seven (7) tickets are requested to return unused tickets to the General Office. **No tickets will be necessary for the outside ceremony.**

## SENIOR OBLIGATIONS

Please encourage your son and/or daughter to responsibly approach year-end course assignments and common assessments. Class attendance is essential for our seniors to maintain a satisfactory academic record. Equally important is to resolve outstanding fines, and to return textbooks, school locks, library books, athletic uniforms and school equipment promptly before the close of the school year.

Seniors have been informed of their school obligations. All outstanding senior obligations must be paid or cleared **no later than 1:00 P.M., Friday, June 12th.** **Failure to satisfy school obligations will result in exclusion from commencement exercises/receipt of diploma.**

Please be advised that students and parents/guardians who paid their annual chromebook fee for all four years will be permitted to keep their Chromebook after graduation. Any student who did not pay the annual fees for all four years, will be required to return their chromebook and will receive an email from the principal.

## GRADUATION REHEARSAL

To participate in the commencement exercises, prospective graduates must attend the graduation rehearsal on **Monday, June 15th at 9:00 A.M.** in the high school auditorium. Graduating seniors are excused from classes on this day. **Seniors should arrive by 8:45 A.M.** Permission to be absent must have prior approval from Mr. MacNaughton. Failure to attend the rehearsal or to secure prior permission for an absence for any reason may result in withdrawal of your son and/or daughter from the commencement exercises.

## PROPER ATTIRE FOR GRADUATES

Appropriate, professional attire is necessary to ensure the dignity of the graduation ceremony. **STUDENTS WHO DO NOT CONFORM TO PROPER ATTIRE WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.**

1. Dress shoes – flats. All other heels may cause damage to the turf field and are prohibited.
2. No apparel that would draw undue attention to oneself (i.e., sunglasses, alterations or additions to the issued cap and gown).
3. Do not bring bags, pocketbooks or purses to graduation. There will be no place to leave them and you cannot bring them into the graduation ceremony.

## **PROPER DECORUM FOR GRADUATION**

There is an expectation by the Senior Class for a dignified ceremony and everyone wishes to hear the names of the graduates; therefore, the Senior Class is requesting that no air horns or noisemakers be brought to the ceremony.

In keeping with the significance of this occasion, the expectation for all graduates is that they will conduct themselves with maturity and dignity throughout the commencement ceremony. No student should be involved with:

1. Chanting or any other type of verbal outburst.
2. Bringing objects into the ceremony that would cause disruption or distraction from the ceremony (i.e., firecrackers, balloons, beach balls, noise makers, confetti).
3. If anyone is suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, he or she will be removed from the line of march and will not take part in the ceremony.

All of these guidelines will be reviewed with the graduates at rehearsal. They are all designed to ensure a dignified ceremony and one of which the graduates, friends and relatives can be proud.

The Morris Knolls High School Commencement is traditionally a dignified and momentous occasion. I am looking forward to sharing this very special time with you, your family and friends. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 973-664-2201.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

During the Senior Awards Program and the Commencement Exercises, we must insist that you do not block the auditorium aisles nor walk on the stadium field in order to take pictures. Pictures may be taken from the seating areas. Lors Photography will be photographing each graduate as they receive their diploma. After graduation, you can view your pictures and purchase prints, products, or download at [lorsstudio.smugmug.com](http://lorsstudio.smugmug.com).

## **FLOWER ORDERS FOR GRADUATES**

Once again, Morris Knolls High School has partnered with the Commencement Group to allow families to purchase flowers for their graduates. Parents can pre-order flowers using the link below and pick them up at a booth conveniently located at the entrance to Caruso Field.

[FLOWER Pre-Order Link](#)