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From Your Principal

I hope everyone is having a great Memorial Day weekend.

This past Friday, **May 22nd**, was the last day of classes for our seniors (Class of 2026) WHO HAVE MET ALL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS including seat time for second semester. All seniors who still owe seat time or who have not yet passed all their classes to qualify for graduation, **MUST BE PRESENT THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL.**

All graduating seniors **WILL BE MARKED ABSENT** this week but those absences **WILL NOT COUNT AS A LOSS OF SEAT TIME.** State attendance requirements require that all students not present on school days need to be marked absent. Again... **THESE ABSENCES WILL NOT COUNT AS A LOSS OF SEAT TIME.** There these absences will not need to be made up.

Please see below about important Graduation Day details. The weather does not look good for this week, increasing the possibility of an indoor graduation. **NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE YET.** Please remember, there is no ticket needed for an outdoor graduation but there is a three-ticket limit per graduate for an indoor graduation. Should there be an indoor graduation, no one will be admitted to the gym without a ticket. Tickets will be given to seniors at graduation practice. No additional tickets will be given out so please do not ask. Space in the gym is limited. The graduation will be televised on the County Channel and Facebook. See below for more on graduation.

Tomorrow is the last day of final exams for underclassmen. Tomorrow is the 4th block final exams. Make up testing is Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. To avoid loss of seat time, and getting an FA, underclassmen who are at their limit for absences must attend all school days this week.

Summer School Begins Monday June 8th and runs through Friday June 26th. School Counselors have begun to contact students about attending summer school. In order to stay on grade level and stay on track for graduation, it is recommended for students to attend summer school. Summer is 14 days in June. Summer school will be from 8:45 am to 12:45 pm Monday – Friday (except Friday June 19th). It is recommended students stay for the entire 4 hours so they can complete all their course work. Parents and students with questions should reach out to their counselors. Because of construction, HHIHS's summer school will be held at HHIMS.

After June 1st, all school operations will be held at Hilton Head Middle School. All school personnel need to vacate HHIHS because of the demolition of A, B, C, X, Y and Z hallways. We expect to be able to move into the new building after the July 4th weekend.

The first day of school for the 2026-27 school year is Friday August 7th.



Hilton Head Island High School: An International Baccalaureate World School

HHIHS is an International Baccalaureate World School. Along with Hilton Head Island Middle School (grades 6 to 8), we feature the IB Middle School Years Program (MYP) in grades 9 and 10. We feature the IB Diploma Program (DP) in the 11th and 12th grade. The Diploma Program offers the highest rigor available to Beaufort County students in terms of preparation for college. For more information on our IB programs, please contact Ms. White at:

mary.white@beaufort.k12.sc.us

HHIHS is an IB World School and is the only IB Middle Years Program (MYP) high school in Beaufort County School District. All of our 9th and 10th graders are in years 4 and 5 of the IB MYP. This program is an internationally recognized program that aims to develop curious, independent, critical thinkers who are internationally minded and recognize their shared responsibility in developing a better world. Our MYP classes at HHIHS teach the SC College and Career Ready Standards through the concepts and philosophies of the MYP. If you have questions about the IB MYP Program at HHIHS, please contact the IB MYP Coordinator, Michelle Hartman, at michelle.hartman@beaufort.k12.sc.us.

May Staff Meetings

May 29th	Graduation
June 1 st	End of the Year Celebration Breakfast 8:00am in Cafeteria
June 1st	Last day staff can be in HHIHS
June 2 nd	190 Staff Remote Work Day
June 3 rd	190 Staff Remote Work Day

There is no school on Monday May 25th for the Memorial Day Holiday

Final Exams and SC EOC Exams

Final exams and South Carolina End-of-Course exams (English 2, Biology, US History, and Algebra 1) will take place May 20-May 26. EOCs are 20% of the course grade in English 2, Biology, Algebra 1, and US History and must be taken for a student to receive credit for the course. South Carolina Department of Education regulations no longer permit students to enter a testing room after directions have been read. Therefore, it is imperative that students arrive at their testing location on time or they will be unable to take the test. EOCs are also not timed so it is best not to make appointments on days students are testing.

SCDE asks schools to communicate with students and parents about the importance of test security. Students may not possess any cell phones, smart watches, smart glasses, or other device except for the school computer used during testing. Students have the responsibility to protect the confidentiality of the statewide assessments. All test materials are the property of the SCDE or the contractor, and theft of test materials or compromising the security or confidentiality of test materials through any means, such as copying, videoing, and sharing content, in any way, is against the South Carolina code of laws. Specifically, no one may reproduce, copy, record, distribute, broadcast, or share any part of the material presented to them during a test session. No one may disseminate, in any form, material that is similar to the items on the test.

Students attempting to cheat on a state End-of-Course exam will be suspended from school and subject to state repercussions that may include failure of the course.

Final Exam and EOC Schedule

May 26 - AM 4th Block EOCs/Exams UNDERCLASSMEN

May 27 - 29 - UNDERCLASSMEN Make-up Exams

Important: Senior Pranks and Vandalism at Schools

As we approach the end of the school year and graduation season, we want to remind students and families that senior traditions and celebrations must remain safe, respectful, and lawful.

Recently, a senior prank at one of the other high schools resulted in significant disruption and property damage. While we understand that students may view senior pranks as harmless fun, actions that damage property, disrupt school operations or violate the law are not acceptable.

We ask that you speak with your student about making responsible choices and understanding the potential consequences of their actions. Any prank resulting in vandalism, theft, trespassing, and/or damage to school property may result in school discipline, restitution for damages, and referral to law enforcement for possible criminal prosecution.

Our goal is for all students to finish the school year positively and safely while celebrating their accomplishments in appropriate ways.

We appreciate your partnership and support in helping ensure a safe and respectful environment for all students and staff.



Senior Information from the Counseling Office - if you have any questions, please contact your counselor:

1. Seniors will pick up clearance sheets after Senior Breakfast in the brown brick area from their school counselor. If they are not in attendance they can pick up in the counseling office from their school counselor or Ms. Cruz.
2. Senior exit surveys were emailed on May 1st to all seniors. Please check your school email to complete the required survey.

Senior Awards Night, Tuesday, May 26, Seniors check in at 5:30 in the cafeteria; event starts at 6:00 PM, SCC

- Please plan to stay for approximately 90 minutes - 2 hours
- Valedictorian, Salutatorian and Top 10, Outstanding Seniors, Super Seahawk recognized
- Local scholarships are awarded by any organization who chooses to attend; students are responsible for knowing if they should be in attendance for this (we don't know who the recipients are)
- Students CHECK IN at 5:30 in the cafeteria or their names won't be announced
How do you know if you are receiving honor cords? The list linked below provides all school organizations that offer honor cords to students in good standing. If you're not sure, check with the person listed. Ms. White and Ms. Hartman DO NOT have a master list of students' honor cords. The people on the list can assist you later this month after everything is finalized. We recommend emailing them in a few weeks if you haven't heard from them.

[HHIHS Honor Cords and Who's in Charge of Each](#)

Graduation Practice: Thursday, May 28, 8:30 AM - noon, MANDATORY to participate in the graduation ceremony

- Please schedule college orientation, grad parties, etc. so that seniors can attend this practice in full.
- 8:30 AM, main gym to start; late students won't be admitted; DON'T schedule work or anything else before noon.
- Seniors submit check out sheets to their counselors as a ticket into practice
- Dress comfortably for the heat/bring water as we practice both inside and outside.
- Rain tickets are distributed at the end of practice (3 tickets per graduate for seating in main gym bleachers if we get inclement weather)
- Scheduling conflicts about grad practice go straight to Mr. Schidrich.

Graduation Supply Company Herff Jones at Graduation Practice on May 28

- A representative from Herff Jones will be on-site to ensure every student is ready for their big day. They will have essential graduation items available for purchase on hand for those who may need anything. Prices are listed below, and cash or card are accepted.
 - Tassels: \$10
 - Caps: \$15
 - Hoods: \$40

Graduation, Friday, May 29, HHIHS Stadium with no tickets needed unless we move inside because of weather:

- Because of the construction, parking will be tricky. Be prepared to arrive early and carpool if possible.
- Dress Code for Graduation:
 - Semi-Formal attire. Cap, gown, tassel, Seahawk stole required; honor cords from Awards Night. Acceptable attire includes a light colored dress, light colored shirt and tie with dress pants, dress shoes. Be careful with shoe choices because of the turf field. No flip flops, please.
 - *ONLY SCHOOL APPROVED HONOR CORDS AND STOLES, distributed at Senior Awards Night, may be worn*
 - Caps may be appropriately personalized and decorated.
- When? Graduates should arrive at the main gym by 5:30 pm for the 7:00 pm ceremony. No tickets necessary for an outdoor ceremony.
- Potential rain plans will be communicated via social media as they are finalized that day.
 - Seniors: LEAVE YOUR 3 RAIN TICKETS WITH YOUR GUESTS WHO MAY NEED THEM.
 - Guests: BRING YOUR 3 RAIN TICKETS REGARDLESS OF HOW THE WEATHER LOOKS JUST IN CASE.
- All obligations must be paid in order to participate in any graduation-related activities.
- If a student is suspended at the time of any event, they may not participate in that event.
- All school rules will apply throughout all events. Anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be allowed to participate and will face consequences.

Graduation Reminders

HILTON HEAD ISLAND Graduation

FRIDAY MAY 29TH 7:00 PM HHIHS FOOTBALL STADIUM

GRADUATION SECURITY SCREENING
All guests will pass through the weapons detection system. To avoid delays and ensure a smooth and swift entrance, please review the following important information prior to attending.

PROHIBITED ITEMS
Weapons of any kind are not allowed. Below are examples of items that should not be brought to graduation ceremonies, as they commonly trigger the weapons detection system and cause delays.

- ⊗ Eyeglass cases
- ⊗ Vapes or e-cigarettes
- ⊗ Eyelash curlers
- ⊗ Purses
- ⊗ Noise makers

BAG POLICY
To help move attendees quickly through the weapons detection system, we strongly encourage guests not to bring bags.

- ✓ If a bag is necessary, it must be clear and no larger than 12" x 6" x 12"
- ✓ Only diaper bags and medical items for small children are permitted.
- ✓ Purses not allowed.

Guests with non-compliant bags or prohibited items must return them to their vehicles.

ARRIVAL AND ENTRY TIMES
Graduation ceremonies begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Gates will open at 5:30 where spectators will enter through the weapons detection system.

New Graduation Protocols:

- The weapons detection system will be in place at all school events, including at the gates to the stadium the evening of Graduation, so plan accordingly. Personal items that will alert the system include eyeglass cases, eyelash curlers, spray bottles, handheld gaming devices, and any other heavy metal item. *Please allow for extra time when entering the school or stadium.*

- BCSD and SCHSL have a strict clear bag policy inside all gymnasiums and stadiums. Approved bags are clear plastic, vinyl, or PVC, not exceeding 12" x 6" x 12", or one-gallon clear freezer bags. Small, non-clear clutch bags (4.5" x 6.5") are allowed as well as necessary medical/diaper bags after inspection.

- You are required to remain seated in the bleachers until all graduate's names have been read. We understand everyone is anxious and excited to see their graduate on the football field; however, those later in the alphabet can't hear their graduate's name being read when others are exiting the bleachers during the ceremony. You will be allowed to exit the bleachers after the students throw their caps.

- Students are required to wear the mandatory graduation regalia: cap with tassel, gown, and Seahawk hood as well any honor cords or stoles awarded and approved by HHIHS. Students are NOT allowed to wear any outside stoles or honor cords. Any personalization to the traditional and required graduation regalia should be limited to decorating the cap. Students are encouraged to decorate their graduation caps in any way they choose as long as it is school appropriate. This includes representing their home country, their future college/university, or a positive message.
- Please be reminded that balloons and noisemakers are not allowed inside the ceremony. These balloons obstruct other's view and the noisemakers prevent hearing students' names being read.

Special Needs for Graduation:

- Please be advised handicap parking is available in the stadium parking lot. There is a wheelchair accessible ramp leading into the bleachers. If the ceremony is inside, there is wheelchair space on the bottom level.

- Anyone requiring ASL interpreter services should contact Laurie Hernandez laurie.hernandez@beaufort.k12.sc.us as soon as possible for scheduling purposes.

Senior Contact Information:

Contact your student's counselor if needed

- Mr. Keck, Timothy.Keck@beaufort.k12.sc.us (A - CL)
- Ms. Mielcarek, Nancy.Mielcarek@beaufort.k12.sc.us (CM - HER)
- Ms. Raniszewski, Amanda.Raniszewski@beaufort.k12.sc.us (HES - ME)
- Ms. Langley, Nicoleta.Langley@beaufort.k12.sc.us (MF - ROD)
- Ms. Dopson, Cheryl.Dopson@beaufort.k12.sc.us (ROE - Z)
- Graduation supplies – Herff Jones at <https://gradnow.com/> or 912-764-9314
- Yearbook/Yearbook Slideshow – Ms. Schoelkopf, Patricia.Schoelkopf@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Other Senior Information – Ms. White and Ms. Hartman Mary.White@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Michelle.Hartman@beaufort.k12.sc.us

MSAP II Survey for Students

We're thrilled to continue [CHANGEMAKERS](#)—our innovative magnet program at Hilton Head Island Elementary, Middle, and High schools. As part of our ongoing program evaluation, students at these schools will be invited to complete a short survey on May 22, 2026. This survey is a required part of the grant supporting CHANGEMAKERS, which is designed to provide a globally focused, inquiry-based education that empowers students to become thoughtful, engaged changemakers in their communities and beyond.

The purpose of this survey is to measure progress towards two key goals of the program:

1. Global Citizenship: This goal focuses on promoting interdisciplinary and life skills, particularly students' ability to understand their role in the world and take meaningful action.
2. Student Agency: This goal emphasizes the importance of students being able to manage their own learning and succeed in school, fostering independence and empowerment.

While this survey is optional and anonymous, it plays a vital role in helping us track the success of the program. Students may choose not to participate simply by not completing the survey. Additionally, we are providing links to the surveys for your review, so you can see the exact questions being asked.

- [Hilton Head Island High School Survey - English](#)
- [Hilton Head Island High School Survey - Spanish](#)

If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please feel free to reach out to [Megan Jarrett](#). Please notify your child(ren)'s principal if you would like your child(ren) to opt out of taking the survey by completing the [form found at this link](#) and returning it to the school by May 21, 2026. We appreciate your support as we continue to grow the CHANGEMAKERS program and provide our students with exceptional educational experiences.

Athletics this week:

Wednesday May 27th Hawkspys Award Banquet in the SCC 6:00pm

From the School Counseling Office

This is the final edition of [The Counselor's Compass](#) for the 2025–2026 school year. As we enter the final stretch, we encourage students to continue working hard, monitor their grades and seat time closely, and finish the year strong. Thank you for your continued partnership. Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can support your student in any way.

Honor our Heroes: Wreaths Across America

★ HONOR OUR HEROES ★
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
EVERY WREATH. EVERY HERO.
Every time.

Beaufort County School District Students are raising awareness to support Wreaths Across America—an effort to honor veterans laid to rest at Beaufort National Cemetery.

In past years, there hasn't been enough funding to place a wreath on every grave. This year, students are working to change that.

HOW YOU CAN HELP
Donate \$1 per student or any amount you're able to give.
Every small donation makes a difference when everyone participates.

WHEN
Donations will be collected throughout the month of May.

WHERE TO DONATE
Money will be collected at the schools or by QR code.

SCAN HERE TO DONATE

★ TOGETHER, WE CAN HONOR EVERY HERO. ★
Thank you for your support!

BCSD News Release: BCSD Launches “Groceries-to-Go” Summer Food Program

Beaufort, SC — Beaufort County School District* (BCSD), in partnership with The Nutrition Group, is offering Groceries-to-Go, a new free summer food program providing weekly grab-and-go breakfast and lunch meal kits for children.

The program runs June 11 through July 31 and is open to children ages 18 and under, as well as eligible individuals over 18 with disabilities who participate in qualifying programs during the school year.

Families may pick up weekly grocery kits on Thursdays from 4–6 p.m. or Fridays from noon–2 p.m. at designated locations in Bluffton and Beaufort. (*Pickups scheduled for June 19 and July 3 will move to the Wednesday prior from noon–2 p.m.*)

Parents or guardians must reserve a ticket for each child, each week and present the QR code received by email along with an ID at pickup.

To reserve tickets and review eligibility requirements, locations, community partners, and FAQs, visit: www.beaufortschools.net/groceries

“Groceries to Go” Volunteers Help Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Groceries to Go event. This event will run every Thursday and Friday from June 11th to July 24th. Volunteers are needed for portioning food, putting groceries in bags, transporting groceries to pick up locations, and loading groceries into cars. This is a great opportunity for students to earn community service hours for the various clubs and national honor societies. For more information, please contact Pilar Renteria at: Pilar.Renteria@beaufort.k12.sc.us

From BCSD: MySchoolBucks

As a reminder, the Beaufort County School District will officially transition to MySchoolBucks on March 3. On that date, OSP (Online School Payments) will no longer be active. To ensure uninterrupted access to online payments and your school's online store, we ask that all families create their free MySchoolBucks account as soon as possible.

Get Started in 4 Easy Steps

1. Download the MySchoolBucks mobile app (available on iOS and Android) or visit www.myschoolbucks.com.
2. Create your free account.
3. Add a student to your account using the student's name, date of birth, and/or student ID number.
4. Browse your school's online store, add items to your cart, and check out securely.

Setting up your account now will allow you to seamlessly manage school-related payments when the system goes live on March 3.

If you have any questions about getting started with MySchoolBucks, you may call MySchoolBucks directly at (855) 832-5226, reach out to our district team at communitycomments@beaufort.k12.sc.us or visit our website at <https://www.beaufortschools.net/myschoolbucks>.

Tutoring for the Spring 2026 semester

Math tutoring will be given by Mr. Willard every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:00am to 8:00am in Room B116. Students need to secure a pass from Mr. Willard the day before to enter the building.

If tutoring is needed in the other subjects or with other Math teachers, all teachers have office hours Monday through Thursday from 3:30pm to 4:00pm. Students should talk with their teachers about meeting them after school for additional assistance.

We also have an online tutoring program. See below.

Attendance Policy for the 2025-26 School Year

It is important for your student to come to school every day, come to school on time, and to be on time for all their classes. There is a positive correlation between being in school and student achievement. The SC State regulation for attendance (seat time) requires a student to be present for at least 120 hours in a semester class or 60 hours in a quarter class in order for a student to receive credit for a class. That is equal to 80 class days for a semester class and 40 for quarter class. In other words, a student may miss up to 10 days per semester class and 5 per quarter class. It is also important to remember that for each time is late (tardy) to a class, this is also a reduction in seat time. If a student does not meet the 120/60 hour seat requirement, they may receive an FA (Failure due to absences) for the course. Seat hours may be made up on Saturdays during the semester on scheduled make up days. For more on the attendance policy please go to:

<https://hhihs.beaufortschools.net/families/attendance-policy>

The school calendars can be found at: <https://www.beaufortschools.net/academics/academic-calendar>

Please plan your vacations accordingly to avoid issues with seat time.

2nd Semester Seat Time:

- May 30

Attendance Notes

To submit absence notes, please send them to the following email address: hhihsattendance@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Early Release Requests

To submit early release requests, please send them to the following email address:

hhihsearlyrelease@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Here is the automatic reply when a parent requests early dismissal for the student.

Thank you for submitting your early release request. No early dismissals 30 minutes prior to the end of the school day. For example: Half days, not after 12 pm and Regular days, not after 3 pm

Please read the early release procedures below as some of the process has been updated.

- 1.) We receive & approve the request. Requests must be submitted before noon each regular school day or 10:00am on half days.
- 2.) Please let the student know there is a dismissal request.
- 3.) The student should show the teacher their early release pass which will be used as a pass out of class and to the front desk.
- 4.) For the safety of our students, we require that any person who will be picking up a student during the school day come into the building and show their ID. The person who is picking up a student will only be permitted to take the student with them if they are listed in PowerSchool. If a student is driving themselves, they will be permitted to sign out and leave at the time listed on their early release note.

BCSD Board of Education

The BCSD Board of Education is the governing body for the school district. The Board's policies are the tools the Board uses to manage BCSD affairs on a cost-effective basis, authorize the Superintendent to serve as the BCSD leader, empower employees to perform and grow, and support all learners in developing their potential by providing excellent education in a safe and nurturing educational environment. Upcoming meetings of the Beaufort County Board of Education are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, beginning at 6 p.m. Board meetings open to the public are held at the District Office and Hilton Head Middle School.

The Board meetings are aired live on the School Board's YouTube Channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@beaufortcountyschoolboard/featured>

Save the Date: Graduation for the Class of 2026 Friday May 29th at 7:00pm

Save the Date: Graduation for the Class of 2027 Tuesday May 25, 2027

Save the Date: HHIHS Prom 2027 is March 13, 2027 Time and location TBA

Hilton Head Island High School Facebook, ROTC Facebook and Athletic Facebook and Twitter

Please check out our school Facebook page and follow us. It has a lot of cool stuff about what is happening in our school. The link to our sight is: <https://www.facebook.com/hhihighschool>

The link to the ROTC Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556639114430>

The link to our athletic Facebook is: <https://www.facebook.com/HiltonHeadIslandHighSchoolAthletics>

Have a great week. Go Seahawks!!!

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Have a great week. Go Seahawks!!!

Steve Schidrich

Principal

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