



HENRY W. GRADY HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2018

SENIOR INFORMATION PACKET

Table of Contents

PAGES 2 – 3..... CLASS OF 2018 REMINDERS

PAGES 4 – 6..... CLASS OF 2018 END-OF-THE-YEAR CALENDAR

PAGES 7 – 8..... CLASS OF 2018 GENERAL INFORMATION

PAGE 9CLASS OF 2018 GRADUATION PRACTICE HALF-DAY PERMISSION SLIP
*THIS IS THE FORM **YOU MUST RETURN** IN ORDER TO HAVE “HALF DAYS.”*

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT NOTICE

ATTENDANCE: *Here is what happens when students participate in graduation practice:*

- 1) They will be marked “absent” by their classroom teachers BECAUSE they are not in class; they are with Mr. Vincent in the gym for rehearsal.
- 2) Mr. Vincent will take attendance in the gym.
- 3) He will change the “ABSENCE” code to a “PRESENT” code by the end of each day.
- 4) Therefore, don’t get too stressed when Infinite Campus sends you a message that your child has been marked “ABSENT.” Only get stressed if the code is still showing “ABSENT” 24 hours later. Then contact Mr. Vincent to see if your child was or was not in rehearsal.

CLASS OF 2018 REMINDERS

- 1) All accounts must be clear and balances paid in order to receive a diploma.
- 2) We will let you know how many tickets you will receive ASAP. All guests who enter the hall will need a ticket. Small children who are able to sit in adults' laps have not needed tickets in the past. After you receive them, GUARD THEM. If these tickets are misplaced, they cannot be reissued. If additional tickets are needed, students must see fellow classmates for extras.
- 3) **To Parents and Relatives:** At the commencement ceremony, it is important that parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends share in the experience and recognize the graduate's accomplishment. All families deserve to hear the names of their graduates announced. For that reason, it is necessary that parents and students hold their applause until all students have had the opportunity to be recognized. Do not bring air horns or other noisemakers to the ceremony. The ceremony is filmed, and excess noise ruins the sound quality of the video. Additionally, those who use noise makers make it difficult or impossible for other families to hear their child's name announced. Please be courteous so that all graduates are properly acknowledged. Also, no balloons are allowed at the World Congress Center.
- 4) **To Graduating Seniors:** This ceremony is a student activity, so it is not required that graduating seniors attend. We hope that you choose to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime ceremony. However, if you intend to do anything that takes attention away from the ceremony or the person who is receiving his or her diploma, please do not attend. Every graduating student deserves the same recognition. All families deserve the pleasure of hearing their graduates' names read in the presence of all attending. Your consideration for all those attending graduation is appreciated. To maintain a professional and dignified atmosphere, graduating seniors should not be disruptive during the graduation ceremony. As this is a student activity, the code of conduct remains in full force. Students whose behavior impinges on the enjoyment of others will be removed from the stage and will not receive their diplomas after graduation. The diploma will be held for a minimum of thirty days. After that time period is up, a conference with the student and parent will be required with the Assistant Principal before the diploma is conferred. Obviously, we hope that these measures will not be necessary and that our graduates will conduct themselves in a manner that will make their families proud.
- 5) **Visions of the Future** (the traditional "pre-graduation" program) is **Saturday, May 19, 2018, in Grady's Historic Gymnasium**. Guests do not need tickets to enter this program.

- 6) Graduation is **Thursday, May 24th at 3:30 PM at the World Congress Center: Hall C3, 285 Andrew Young International Blvd., NW, Atlanta 30313. Parking: Yellow Lot/Blue Lot/Gold Lot.**
- a. The school district is working out a “half-day” procedure for Grady, BUT this is the time for parents to prepare for “what to do if a graduate has siblings at another school where a half-day is not going to happen.” I don’t have an answer. Please ask the other schools this question if it applies to your family.
 - b. **PARKING WILL BE WORSE THAN HORRENDOUS.** Dekalb County Schools has decided to use the World Congress Center as their graduation site, **YES, during the SAME WEEK AS ATLANTA’S GRADUATIONS.** They will actually be two halls away from us. We recommend planning to be at the World Congress Center by 1:30 PM since there will be many other things happening at the Congress Center along with two graduations. MARTA may really be smarter. Picture this: Not just ONE school leaving the parking decks as another school is trying to park, but 2 or more schools trying to leave the parking decks while 2 or more schools are trying to park. **Plan NOW in order to avoid missing graduation...**
 - c. Remember that APS doesn’t control how much the Congress Center charges for parking. We don’t really recommend buying parking tickets from the Congress Center in advance since some parents who did so still didn’t have a space because of high volume.
- 7) **SENIOR FEES are currently \$225. Use the following link to pay online at <https://osp.osmsinc.com/Atlanta/Default.aspx>.** See the Class of 2018 General Information attachment for additional payment information/options.

On behalf of the administration and faculty, we offer you our congratulations. We wish to thank you for your cooperation and trust during the last few years and express our hope that your family will be continually blessed in the future. Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

Class of 2018 End-of-the-Year Calendar

Students must have some form of picture identification to receive caps/gowns/tickets. If you do not have identification, we will have a verification process in place, but you will have to wait until all other students have been processed.

Students who have returned permission slips MUST leave campus after practice OR report to class. Students who DID NOT return the permission slip MUST report to class. Failure to comply with these stipulations may jeopardize your participation in Commencement.

NOW!!!	SENIORS: Senior Data Forms due to Counselors
Friday, March 31	Community Service Information due to Counselors
Monday, May 7	Senior Fees (\$225) and ALL DEBT must be cleared. Seniors must meet ALL academic requirements prior to participating in Visions/Commencement rehearsals.
May 10-15	<u>Senior Exams:</u> Thursday, 5/10/18 1A 3A Friday, 5/11/18 1B 3B Monday, 5/14/18 2A 4A Tuesday, 5/15/18 2B 4B
Wednesday, May 16	Senior Exam Retakes/Make-Ups – 8:30 AM (See Ms. Gray for details.) Visions of the Future/Commencement Practice 8:30 AM – Historic Gym <u>TASK:</u> Final transcript requests must be done via Parchment at <u>parchment.com</u> . <i>All students have up to 60 days after their graduation date to utilize the Parchment service. After that, you'll have to request transcripts from Atlanta Public School's Records Center. Their contact info is 130 Trinity Ave, Atlanta, GA 30303 or online:</i> https://apsqa.scriborder.com or 404.802.2150.
Thursday, May 17	Visions of the Future/Commencement Practice 8:30 AM – Historic Gym <u>ACTIVITY:</u> Receive senior class t-shirt (if you have paid senior fees and did not receive it in April)
Friday, May 18	Visions of the Future/Commencement Practice 8:30 AM – Historic Gym <u>ACTIVITY:</u> Senior Yearbook Party after commencement rehearsal

Saturday, May 19	<p>Visions of the Future – 10 AM Historic Gym</p> <p>ALL graduates must be in the Performance Gym by 9 AM. MAKE SURE YOU ARE DRESSED APPROPRIATELY.</p> <p>A reception follows.</p>
Monday, May 21	<p>Commencement Practice 8:30 AM – Historic Gym</p> <p><u>TASK:</u> Receive CAPS & GOWNS (You MUST wear caps and gowns to commencement practice at the World Congress Center, OR you will NOT be able to participate.)</p> <p><u>ACTIVITY:</u> Senior Picnic</p>
Tuesday, May 22	<p>MANDATORY REHEARSAL – Georgia World Congress Center – PARKING IS \$10, at least. (MARTA may be smarter...smile) All seniors must be there by 7:45 AM. You may provide your own transportation, or you may ride the buses provided at the school. The buses will leave the student parking lot at 7 AM. If you ride the school bus there, you must ride it back to school. <u>Failure to follow this rule may cost you your participation in commencement.</u></p> <p><u>TASK:</u> Be prepared to take a class picture at the commencement rehearsal. Therefore, you MUST be in caps & gowns, and NO sneakers/jeans are permitted. You MUST wear what you plan to wear to Commencement (or something very similar) so that you will be prepared for what you will experience at COMMENCEMENT. Not dressed appropriately = NO participation at rehearsal. Sorry.</p>
Wednesday, May 23	<p>Commencement Practice 8:30 AM – Historic Gym</p> <p><u>TASK:</u> We will issue tickets.</p>
Thursday, May 24	<p>COMMENCEMENT!!! <u>GRADUATES should be there by 1:45 PM.</u></p> <p>For all guests:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Time: 3:30 PM Georgia World Congress Center Hall C3 285 Andrew Young International Blvd., NW, Atlanta 30313 Parking: Yellow Lot/Blue Lot/Gold Deck <i>(Consider not driving; Dekalb County Schools will also be there, and parking will be a nightmare.)</i></p> <p>The cost for parking will fluctuate. The World Congress Center tends to change the price at will, and we have no control over this behavior.</p>

	<p><u>YOUNG LADIES, only bring a small body purse that you can wear discreetly under your gowns. There will be NO SAFE PLACE to store your belongings.</u></p>
--	---

	<p>Remember – high heels are not your friends at commencement. It will be a painfully long walk, and we have seen many students stumble. Just a thought.</p>
--	---

CLASS OF 2018 GENERAL INFORMATION

SENIOR FEES HAVE NO CONNECTION TO:

Announcements: You must contact Herff-Jones if you want to order graduation announcements, class rings, invitations, etc.

Contact Rick Shrewsbury at 770-921-9022 extension 107.

His email address is rick@herffjonesgrad.com.

Senior fees DO NOT cover the costs for announcements, class rings, etc.

Senior Fees: \$225

Look under QUICK LINKS, and choose "[Pay School Fees Online](#)." Create a username and password to make your payment. Remember to print confirmation and/or a receipt of your transaction. In addition, payments (**cash or money orders ONLY**) will be accepted by Ms. Matthews in the Main Office daily from 9:00-11:30am and from 3:30-3:45pm (except on Fridays). **The Class of 2018 is much smaller than past classes, so the fees are a little higher. SORRY!!!**

ONLY STUDENTS WHO PAY ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1ST WILL BE GUARANTEED TO RECEIVE A SENIOR T-SHIRT BEFORE GRADUATION.

Those who pay after April 1st will have to get theirs special-ordered, and they may or may not come before graduation.

Senior Fees include:

- ❖ Cap and gown
- ❖ Diploma cover
- ❖ School yearbook
- ❖ Food and entertainment for the Yearbook Signing Party
- ❖ Organ rental for Graduation (the venue doesn't provide musical instruments)
- ❖ Senior Activities
- ❖ Senior trophies and awards
- ❖ Decorations and logistics for Visions of the Future
- ❖ Parent gifts at Visions of the Future
- ❖ Chair and stage rental for Visions of the Future.
- ❖ Programs for Visions of the Future
- ❖ Printing costs and logistics for graduation
- ❖ Senior picnic, t-shirts, logistics, and entertainment
- ❖ Graduation transportation
- ❖ Class legacy gift to the school

Visions of the Future and Graduation Ceremony Dress Code

Visions of the Future attire must be worn under the cap and gown during the graduation ceremony:

Dress Code:

White dresses OR white tops/black or white slacks
 White shirts OR white blouses
 Black neckties; NO BOWTIES
 Flesh-toned stockings (no patterns) (OR no stockings at all)
 Black or taupe/nude closed-toe shoes (2 inch heels or lower)
 No large earrings, etc.
 NO SNEAKERS OR TENNIS SHOES.

All participating seniors must adhere to the Grady High School Dress Code policy. Graduation activities are monumental occasions that should be honored with the most appropriate dress. Any article of dress that tends to draw unfavorable attention or threatens health or safety is considered out of order. *Failure to adhere to Grady High School's Visions of the Future and Graduation Ceremony dress code will result in the denial of participation in all activities deemed by the administration.*

Unacceptable dress includes, but, is not limited to the following:

- Clothing that displays exposure of thighs/flesh
- Clothing with underwear showing (including bras) or clothing that results in exposed cleavage
- Spaghetti straps (straps must be three fingers width across the shoulder)
- Strapless/tube shirts; Halter shirts or halter dresses
- Excessively low-cut shirts/See-through tops
- Backless clothing (clothing that does not cover the back entirely)
- Bare midriff (stomach) may not be exposed
- Off-shoulder or single strap garments

CLASS OF 2018 GRADUATION PRACTICE HALF-DAY PERMISSION SLIP

READ, SIGN, and RETURN THIS FORM TO THE MAIN OFFICE or EMAIL it to Mr. Vincent at wmvincent@atlanta.k12.ga.us on or before **Monday, May 7, 2018.**

If you take it to the main office, ASK THE FRONT OFFICE STAFF TO PLACE THIS FORM
IN MR. VINCENT'S MAILBOX.

**Students who DO NOT return this form with the correct information MUST BE IN CLASS when they are not
scheduled to be in graduation practice.**

**They may NOT leave campus, and they may not roam around the building.
Email Mr. Vincent if you have questions.**

Print Senior's Name: (PLEASE PRINT)

First

Last

MI

Print Parent/Guardian's Name

First

Last

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number

Parent/Guardian's Email

FOR SENIOR:

Sign below stating that you have read the Class of 2018 Information and that you understand what is expected of you from now until graduation on May 24, 2018.

Senior's Signature

FOR PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Please sign below if you understand the following:

On Wednesday, May 16, 2018, rehearsals for Visions of the Future and Graduation will begin. All seniors must report to the Historic Gym each day at 8:30 a.m. Only seniors who have paid their senior dues in full will be allowed to participate in the planned activities. Only seniors who have also met the requirements for graduation and attended the rehearsals will be allowed to receive a cap and gown and then participate in Visions of the Future and Graduation. Seniors will be released early according to the schedule posted on the End-of-Year Calendar. Your signature below indicates that you have reviewed the contents of the End-of-Year Calendar and the Senior General Information.

Your signature below gives Grady High School permission to release your senior from school early Wednesday, May 16 – Wednesday, May 23rd. You must arrange transportation for your senior.

On Tuesday, May 22nd, you may provide/ arrange your student's transportation to and from the dress rehearsal at the Georgia World Congress Center. However, we will have two school buses available at Grady for those who need us to provide transportation. The buses will leave Grady at 7 AM. Seniors are expected to be present for the rehearsal by 7:45 AM and will remain until 10:00 AM. The seniors will NOT be expected to go back to school that day unless they ride the school buses to the Georgia World Congress Center. THIS REHEARSAL IS MANDATORY! Any senior who is not present WILL NOT be able to participate in graduation!

Parent/Guardian's Signature