

Senior Newsletter

SENIOR NEWSLETTER, SPRING 2019

Volume XVI



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019! CLASS OF 2019!

FINAL ONLINE SENIOR GRADES DUE MAY 24th

Seniors should plan on completing their online course by May 24th. The online instructor will need time to grade exams and submit final grades. Please make an appointment with your counselor to discuss your progress and confirm you are on track for graduation.

CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP:

To check the status of your Bright Future Scholarship. Seniors can log on to the Bright Futures website:

1. After registering for Bright Futures, go to www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org;
2. Click on Scholarships & Loans Applications link;
3. Click on Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program link;
4. Click on Check Your Status;
5. Enter your assigned login and password;
6. View your updated scholarship status.

Note: Seniors must apply for Bright Futures Scholarship during their last year in high school or forfeit all future eligibility for a Bright Future Scholarship.

SENIORS DEBTS

This article contains the policy concerning Monies Owed/Student Debt for students of Okaloosa County. This policy as mandated by Florida law and the Okaloosa County School Board states:

The principal shall collect from each student or the student's parent, the purchase price of any instructional materials the student has lost, destroyed, or unnecessarily damaged. The failure of the student or student's parent to pay such sum upon reasonable effort by the school principal may result in the suspension of the student from participation in extracurricular activities until such debt is satisfied * or satisfaction of the debt by the student through**

community service activities at the school site as assigned by the school principal. Community service hours shall be credited against the debt by forgiving \$8.00 per hour of service. If any such debt is owed by a graduating senior, and is not paid at least by ten (10) days prior to the student's last scheduled day of classes, then that student shall not be allowed to participate in graduation activities and ceremonies unless and until such debt is satisfied. Records and/or grades will not be released, nor diplomas issued until all "Monies Due" are cleared.

Seniors, you **MUST** settle any debts you have accrued during your attendance at Niceville High School (freshman through senior years) before **Friday, May 17th**. **A final notice of "monies owed" letters will be mailed in May.** If you disagree with the debt listed, you must speak to the teacher who issued the Monies Owed Form. All returned materials or payments are to be given to Ms. Phillips in the Guidance Department. Examples of debts: missing books, band/ROTC/athletic uniforms not returned, cleaning fees for uniforms, fund raiser collections, art supplies, etc.

***** If you are interested in "working off" your debt, please see Ms. Phillips in the Guidance Department.**

SENIOR ACTIVITIES



SENIOR LAST DAY ACTIVITIES

The excitement of graduation activities will begin for all seniors on Senior Day. Senior Day will be Friday, May 24th beginning at 6:45 a.m. Seniors will gather in the front parking lot by 6:45 a.m. At 7:00 a.m., Mr. Marelo and retiring staff members will lead the Class of 2019 through the halls of Niceville High School for their final senior walk. After the walk, the seniors will proceed to their Senior SOAR to receive their cap and gown package. Seniors who have purchased tickets for the Senior Breakfast will proceed to First Baptist Church after receiving their cap and gown. The Senior Awards Ceremony will follow the Senior Breakfast at 10:00 a.m. in the NHS auditorium.

CAP AND GOWN DISTRIBUTION

Caps and gowns will be distributed on Friday, May 24th IN YOUR SENIOR SOAR, after the Senior Walk. If you are not present to pick-up your cap and gown on May 24th, it will be available for pick-up in the Guidance Office Tuesday, May 28th. Listed below are a few tips concerning the care of your cap and gown:



- **Be careful when ironing your gown.** In most cases, wrinkles will hang out of your gown.
- Hang the gown in the shower and allow the steam to remove the wrinkles. **Caution: Do not get the gown wet!**
- Place your tassel on the cap carefully. Do not pull hard as the button may pop off.
- Write your name inside the cap. It will help you locate your cap (if you throw it!) after the ceremony.
- **DO NOT PUT ANY TYPE OF DECORATION ON THE CAP OR THE GOWN. IF YOU SHOW UP WITH DECORATIONS AND ARE UNABLE TO REMOVE THEM YOU WILL NOT WALK.**
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- **SENIOR BREAKFAST**

Don't miss the Class of 2019 Senior Breakfast on May 24th immediately after the cap and gown distribution (after the Senior Walk). The breakfast will begin promptly at 7:45 a.m. and continue until 9:45 a.m. This year's Senior Breakfast will be held at the First Baptist Church of Niceville where you will have a chance to eat a

sumptuous breakfast buffet as you spend time with your fellow graduates. Tickets for this event will be sold Apr. 22 – May 10 in the cafeteria. We can only sell 310 tickets. We have to pay in advance for this breakfast, **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER MAY 10th**. The dress code is **SUNDAY DRESSY!** Only NHS Seniors may attend.

SENIOR VIDEO - To be played at Senior Breakfast

You can still upload pictures for the Senior Video. See the instructions below:

You may upload selfies, pictures with friends, and anything in between. Just make sure they are school appropriate and you do not mind them being put up on the big screen (be aware that they will be visible to all who share their pictures).

Any Senior who wants to have their pictures be part of the Senior video- please download the pictures to: EricaLou2000@gmail.com by May 1st.

All hard copies of pictures must be scanned in and sent to Nick via email or twitter. If you have video you would like to submit, please email Nick for special instructions.



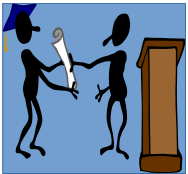
SENIOR AWARDS CEREMONY

The Senior Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 24, 2019, in the NHS auditorium at 10:00 a.m. This ceremony is an opportunity to recognize awards and scholarships received by Seniors at Niceville High School. Seniors who have received scholarships from local organizations, athletic scholarships, ROTC scholarships and military academy appointments, National Merit Scholarships, and seniors who qualified for Florida Bright Futures after seven semesters will be recognized during the ceremony. Any senior who turned in college scholarship award letters to Ms. Phillips will also be a part of the program. Summa, Magna, and Cum Laude seniors will receive their honors sash and tassel during the ceremony.

BACCALAUREATE

The Baccalaureate Ceremony for the class of 2019 is planned and carried out by graduating seniors. The location of the ceremony rotates between churches who are members of the Twin Cities Youth Ministerial Association, and this year will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at **Crosspoint Methodist Church**. This program is **OPTIONAL** for seniors. Any senior who chooses to attend this program must wear the complete graduation attire: Cap, gown, and tassel; Sunday dressy attire. (See the **GRADUATION DRESS CODE** in this newsletter).

If you have any questions please see Mrs. Marshall-Claude in room 617.



GRADUATION PRACTICE...

is **MANDATORY! You must attend!** Practice will be Wednesday, May 29th at 11:30 a.m. Seniors are to report to their assigned 600 hall SOAR classroom. Seniors should wear comfortable clothes such as shorts, t-shirt, and tennis shoes. A hat and sun screen is highly recommended. Bathing suits, spaghetti strap, halter, or strapless tops will **NOT** be allowed. The school dress code will be enforced!

How long will this practice last? The length of the practice depends on the behavior of the seniors. If the seniors listen and follow directions the practice could last as little as one hour, but...it could last a lot longer if the seniors are not cooperative. Exhibit your Eagle Pride and finish early!!!

PROPER DECORUM DURING GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Graduation Ceremony is a very proud time for all seniors, parents, guests, and the NHS faculty. Many years of hard work and effort by our seniors and family members are honored.

Improper behavior (screams, comments, air horns, etc.) can put a damper on such a wonderful event. Out of consideration for all who will attend the graduation activities, please adhere to the following rules:

1. Everyone would like to hear their graduate's

name called as they walk across the stage to receive their diploma. Therefore, ceremony guests are asked to restrict themselves from loud noises or screams when their graduate crosses the stage.

2. Items **NOT** permitted in the stadium during the ceremony are: noise makers (air horns, cow bells, drums, shakers, etc.); coolers, alcoholic beverages, fireworks, silly string, water balloons, beach balls, and any other items that might cause a distraction from the ceremony.

3. Law enforcement officers will be present throughout the stadium to ensure the safety of our students and their guests. Please be courteous and use the proper decorum.

GRADUATION DRESS CODE

The required dress code for all seniors participating in Baccalaureate and Graduation ceremonies is listed below. Flowers are **NOT** permitted to be worn on the gown or carried during the ceremony. Only medals, pins, honors sash, and National Honor Society collars given to Seniors by Niceville High School are acceptable accessories to be worn with the gown. No Decorations!

THE CEREMONIAL DRESS CODE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.



Gentlemen:

- Dark dress pants;
- **WHITE**, collared dress shirt with a tie;
- Dress shoes. (No sneakers, flip-flops or slippers will be permitted!!!)

Ladies:

- Dress or a skirt with a blouse;
- Dress shoes. **Ladies: Keep in mind your spiked high-heels will not be safe on the field! Your heels will sink in the grass and you may fall!**
- **Choose a low solid heel.** (No sneakers, flip-flops or slippers will be permitted!!!)

- Your dress or skirt should not be longer than the gown.
- **Dressy** pantsuits are permitted, but you must speak to Mrs. Horton no later than after graduation practice to discuss “dressy”.

- **GRADUATION ARRIVAL TIME:**

Seniors are required to be in their assigned 600 building classroom by **6:15p.m.** You should be dressed in your cap and gown upon arrival. Please plan for traffic delays on the Mid-Bay Bridge and John Sims Parkway. **If you are late, the Graduation Ceremony will not wait for you!!**

OPEN GRADUATION

The Niceville High School graduation ceremony is an “open” event. A ticket, announcement, or payment of any kind is **NOT** required to attend this special evening. But remember, with a class of 460 seniors there will be a very large crowd in attendance.

- Listed below are a few tips to make your attendance a little less stressful:
- Family and friends are **NOT** allowed in the 600 building before the ceremony. **ONLY** Seniors and NHS staff members are permitted in the 600 building.
- Arrive early - All guests should be in their seats by 7:00 p.m. To get the “perfect seat” you will need to be early. All gates will open at 6:00 p.m. If you plan to arrive early, please make sure you do not leave your seats unattended; **all personal accessories left unattended will be subject to removal.**
- Know which side of the stadium (home/press box side or visitors/baseball field side) your graduate will be seated. This is the side which you will want to sit.
- The area at the top of the stadium will be roped off at 6:45 p.m. for the graduation procession. After 6:45 p.m. guests will be directed to the exterior of the stadium to travel from one side to the other.
- Bring cushions, blankets, sun glasses, and umbrellas for comfort. (We hope for no rain,

but the umbrella can shield you from the sun as well!)

- Family members and guests are permitted on the field after the closing of the ceremony. Due to the crowd, you might plan a location somewhere in the stadium to meet your graduate after the ceremony.

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PARKING AND SEATING FOR OUR HANDICAPPED GUESTS

There have been many requests for information concerning our handicapped guests planning to attend the graduation ceremony. There are several areas available for wheelchair/handicapped guests. One area is located on the press box side of the field, in front of the concession stand. The space is limited, so you will want to arrive early for this location. Parking for this area is located between the 600 building and the stadium entrance.

Another area for our handicapped guests will be on the track of the home/press box side of the stadium. The handicapped guest and **ONE** caregiver will be permitted in this location. Using the Highway 20 entrance to the stadium (track level), handicapped guests can be driven onto the track and the vehicle can be parked near the flag pole. The third seating option for handicapped guests will be at the top of the stadium on both the home and visitor’s side. Parking for these locations will be the area between the 600 building and stadium entrance for the home side and the field house parking area for the visitor’s side.

WHAT IF IT RAINS GRADUATION DAY?

This is a question frequently asked by our parents and students. If the graduation ceremony is rained-out, the ceremony will be held on Friday, May 31st, with all original times and locations remaining the same as the original ceremony schedule.



DIPLOMAS....

Diplomas will be available for pick-up following the graduation ceremony at the stadium concession stands. Parents or seniors may pick-up the diplomas. Diplomas not picked-up graduation night can be picked-up in the Guidance Office after June 4th.



Guidance

GRADUATION PHOTOS

GradImages will once again be taking photos of our seniors during the graduation ceremony. Photos will be taken of the Seniors crossing the stage receiving their diploma, and an individual student photo will be taken once they leave the stage. Please provide your information to GradImages: on their website. There is a link on the homepage of the NHS website. Listed below are the instructions to register for this photo:

- ▶ Log on to www.GradImages.com;
- ▶ Select Pre-event Registration;
- ▶ Type in Niceville High School;
- ▶ Select Niceville High School 05-30-2019; 7:00 p.m.;
- ▶ Register and Submit!

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Phillips in the Guidance Department.

SENIOR TRIP

The Senior Trip will be Friday, April 12, 2019 at Pier Park at Panama City Beach. The \$40.00 per person covers transportation and Grad party costs. Please bring your own money for food. Also bring a bathing suit, change of clothes, sunscreen, money and a towel.

ITINERARY:

11:00 – LEAVE NHS

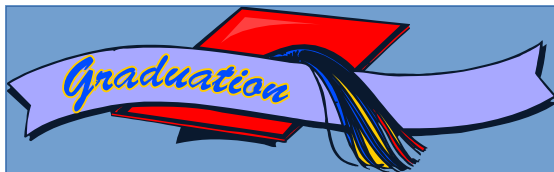
12:30-3:00 LUNCH AT PIER PARK

3:30-8:30 BEACH AT 6102 THOMAS DR.

6:30-8:30 BONFIRE
(DINNER)

9:00-1:00 A.M. GRAD PARTY AT 8752 THOMAS DR.

2:30/3:00 – ARRIVE BACK AT NHS



IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS TO REMEMBER

ACT TEST DATES

June 8, 2019

April

11 – Senior Honor Grads meet with Mr. Marello and Mrs. Horton at the beginning of 6th period in the Auditorium

SAT TEST DATES

May 4, 2019

June 1, 2019

12 – Senior Trip to Pier Park – pick up paperwork in Guidance

16 - Anne T. Mitchell District Senior Honor Awards Ceremony; NWF State College Mattie Kelly Arts Center; 5:00 Reception, 6:00 Awards Ceremony.

**SCHOLARSHIPS CAN BE FOUND ON STUDENT REMIND, IN GUIDANCE, OR ON THE NICEVILLE WEBSITE:
CLICK ON SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION UNDER STUDENTS**

May

11 Prom

24 - Senior's last day –

6:45 Senior Walk

Pick up Cap and Gown in Senior Soar

7:45-9:45 Senior Breakfast at the

First Baptist Church

10:00 Senior Awards in the Auditorium

28 – 6:00 p.m. Senior BACCALAUREATE at Crosspoint United Methodist Church

29 - MANDATORY Graduation Practice

Wednesday at 11:30

30 - 7:00 p.m. Graduation Ceremony

Seniors arrive at 6:15

*****Dates and Times subject to change.**

