

Atholton High School



2018

Senior Activities & Commencement Instructions

Ms. JoAnn Hutchens, Principal
Ms. Kathleen Clark, Assistant Principal
Ms. Adrienne Nasir, Assistant Principal
Mr. Patrick Scible, Assistant Principal
Ms. Jeannette Bonomo-Thomas, Commencement Coordinator
Ms. Emily Dalton, Senior Class Advisor
Mr. Nicholas Johnson, Senior Class Advisor

ATHOLTON HIGH SCHOOL

6520 Freetown Road = Columbia, MD 21044 = 410-313-7065 = (F) 410-313-7078 = <http://ahs.hcpss.org>

Dear Senior,

This packet provides helpful information you will need during your final weeks at Atholton High School. We are giving you this information so you may begin to make plans for your senior activities. Attendance at graduation rehearsals is **mandatory** if you wish to participate in the graduation ceremony. Please share this information with your families.

All questions may be directed to Ms. Bonomo-Thomas, Graduation Coordinator, via email (jeannette_bonomo-thomas@hcpss.org).

<u>Dates</u>	<u>2018 Events</u>
April 9 – 26	Prom Ticket Sales: online via ahs.hcpss.org >Online Payments and at lunch shifts April 23-26
April 21	One Night Only, Student-Directed One Act Plays 7pm
April 23	Band Concert 6-9pm
April 24	Choir and Orchestra Concerts 6-9pm
April 27	Senior Shadow Day
April 27	Howard County Army JROTC Awards Ceremony 6-9pm, Location: AHS Auditorium
May 1	Senior Crab Feast 5:30-8pm, Cost: \$20 (includes t-shirt), Location: Cafeteria
May 4	JROTC Raider Battalion Change of Command and Awards Ceremony 12:30-2:10pm, Auditorium
May 4-5	Spring Dance Concerts 7pm both nights and 3pm on May 5 only, Cost: \$8
May 7	Drama Department Banquet 6:30pm
May 10	Space RAIDers Robotics Banquet 6-9pm
May 12	Prom, M&T Bank Stadium 8pm-12am, Cost: \$70 After Prom RP3@YMCA, Ellicott City (Tickets required; bus transportation provided from Prom)
May 16	Music Department Awards Banquet
May 19	Orchestra Concert 11am-5pm
May 21	Senior Class Picnic 4:30-6pm, advanced ticket purchase required, Centennial Park Pavilion H
May 24	Raider A Cappella Performance 7pm
TBA	Spring Sports Awards Ceremony
May 21-24	Last Week of School for Seniors (Please see schedule below.)

All student obligations must be paid in full before students receive prom and graduation tickets. Debts should be paid in cash (no personal checks) directly to Mrs. McIntyre in the Front Office.

All seniors are required to attend school through **Thursday, May 24, 2018**. Final examinations will be given during the class periods on the dates indicated and are **mandatory**. Students must attend all classes each day **unless they provide a written early dismissal request from their parents or guardians**.

<u>Monday, May 21</u>	<u>Tuesday, May 22</u>	<u>Wednesday, May 23</u>	<u>Thursday, May 24</u>
PD 1 Exam Review	PD 1 REHEARSAL	PD 1 BREAKFAST	PD 1 EXAM
PD 2 Exam Review	PD 2 EXAM	PD 2 REHEARSAL	PD 2 REHEARSAL
PD 3 Exam Review	PD 3 EXAM	PD 3 REHEARSAL	PD 3 REHEARSAL
PD 4B Exam Review	PD 4A EXAM	PD 4B EXAM	PD 4A CLASS PHOTO/LUNCH
PD 5 Exam Review	PD 5 Exam Review	PD 5 EXAM	PD 5 SENIOR CELEBRATION
PD 6 Exam Review	PD 6 Exam Review	PD 6 EXAM	PD 6 SENIOR CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, MAY 22 (PERIOD 1) & WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 (PERIODS 2&3):

SENIOR CELEBRATION REHEARSALS

Seniors must report to the **auditorium** for these rehearsals. Seniors who have met all school obligations will receive their *graduation tickets* during rehearsal.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 (PERIOD 1):

SENIOR BREAKFAST

A **light** continental breakfast will be provided by the junior class. Seniors report to the cafeteria.

THURSDAY, MAY 24: SENIORS' LAST DAY

8:20am

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY REHEARSAL

Seniors must report to the **auditorium** following their period 1 exam. This mandatory rehearsal prepares students for the Commencement Ceremony at Merriweather Post Pavilion. Cap/gown **MUST** be worn for this rehearsal.

10:30am

SENIOR CLASS PHOTO [Cap/gown required]

The senior class picture in cap and gown will be taken in the **gymnasium**. Seniors will have an opportunity to purchase the class picture from Lifetouch. Checks should be made payable to: *Lifetouch*. Additional information may be obtained by visiting <http://events.lifetouch.com>. Order forms will be given at the Tues., May 22 rehearsal and will be collected at the Thurs., **May 24** rehearsal.

11:18am

LUNCH/LINE UP FOR SENIOR CELEBRATION

All seniors will eat **in the cafeteria** during C lunch. Immediately following lunch, **ALL** seniors will line up to process into the auditorium for the Senior Celebration.

12:15pm

SENIOR CELEBRATION [Cap/gown required]

Caps/gowns and appropriate attire are required. Shorts/casual shoes are **NOT** appropriate. Caps must be worn flat on heads. Choose hairstyle accordingly.

**THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2018 AT 11:00AM,
LOCATION: MERRIWEATHER POST PAVILION**

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Graduates must arrive by 10:15 a.m. with *cap and gown* and *dressed in appropriate attire*. Graduates must report directly to the designated area and are not allowed to walk around the pavilion in their caps and gowns prior to the ceremony. All seniors **MUST** wear appropriately formal attire and shoes. Outfit should be comfortable **AND** fitting for a semi-formal wedding and/or for a job interview: absolutely **NO** shorts, flip-flops, sneakers, or work boots. Footwear must allow walking down **STEEP** steps.

Lifetouch will be photographing **ALL** graduates, and attendees should remain seated in order to maintain the dignity of the ceremony. Visit <http://events.lifetouch.com> to pre-register and/or to access and share images.

Parking information is forthcoming and will be posted online. For updates, monitor <http://www.hcpss.org/schools/commencement/>

The scheduled length of the graduation ceremony is approximately 90 minutes.

GRADUATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Participation in the graduation ceremony is not required to receive a diploma. **Parents must submit a written request for non-participation to Ms. Hutchens by Friday, April 27, 2018.**
2. Each graduate will receive 10 tickets to the graduation ceremony. For additional tickets, please **submit a letter with the student's name and number of additional tickets requested to Ms. Adkins in the Front Office by Friday, May 4, 2018.** Late requests will not be accepted.
3. Although participation in the commencement ceremony is voluntary, **attendance at ALL rehearsals is MANDATORY in order to participate. Students must be on time and stay for the full practice.** Perfect practice makes a perfect ceremony.
4. Howard County Public School System policies and school rules remain in effect and will be enforced. Please do not jeopardize your privilege to receive a diploma. Cooperation during rehearsals is mandatory to participate in the commencement ceremony.
5. Cap/gown is the REQUIRED attire for the **Senior Class Photo, Senior Celebration and Commencement Ceremony.**
 - a. Write your name in the cap (space provided inside the top of the cap) and gown (on the tag) as soon as you remove it from the package. *(Do not use sharpies)*
 - b. Seniors should wear their caps straight on their heads and the tassel on the left side of the cap.
 - c. Caps will not fit easily with all hairstyles. Adjust your hairstyle accordingly.
 - d. Gowns should be brought up on the shoulders in the back.
 - e. Outfit, including jewelry, should be comfortable AND fitting for a semi-formal wedding and/or for a job interview: absolutely NO shorts, flip-flops, sneakers, or work boots. Footwear must allow walking down STEEP steps.
6. When you receive your cap and gown, please hang it up! Wrinkles do not come out when the gowns stay in the bags. Write your name on the inside of the cap and gown. **Do not iron your gown.**
7. During the ceremony:
 - a. When crossing the stage, walk briskly. Spacing: 6 to 8 feet - while walking.
 - b. Posture: straight - head up - proud appearance - smile - show a sense of pride.
 - c. Remember to stand and remove caps for the National Anthem.
8. Parents who **are permanent employees for the Howard County Public School System (in any capacity)** may present their child's diploma at *Atholton High School's 2018 Commencement Ceremony*. Request forms are located on the AHS website under Graduation News and are **due to Ms. Bonomo-Thomas by Friday, April 27, 2018.**
9. Accessible parking spaces are provided at Merriweather Post Pavilion for those with a state-issued tag. Entering the pavilion by **Broken Land Parkway** offers flatter terrain for less able walkers and those pushing wheelchairs. **South Entrance Road** offers a hillier walk. Neither the pavilion nor the schools provide wheelchairs; guests are encouraged to bring their own to simplify the walk. To use accessible parking or to drop off a guest and then to return to park, cars should enter the pavilion grounds from **Little Patuxent Parkway.**
10. With your assistance, we can make this the best graduation in Atholton's history!
11. Questions: Email Ms. Bonomo-Thomas, Graduation Coordinator, jeannette_bonomo-thomas@hcpss.org.

ATHOLTON HIGH SCHOOL ~ SENIOR CALENDAR ~ CLASS OF 2018

Bell Schedule	Mon., May 21 (B Day)	Tues., May 22 (A Day)	Weds., May 23 (B Day—NO Raider Time)	Thurs., May 24 (A Day)	Thursday, May 31 (A Day)
Period 1 7:25-8:15	Senior Exam Review	SENIOR MEETING (AUDITORIUM)	BREAKFAST (CAFETERIA)	Senior Exam	11:00AM G R A D U A T I O N @ MERRIWEATHER POST PAVILION SENIORS REPORT AT 10:15AM
Period 2 8:20-9:10	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam	SENIOR CELEBRATION REHEARSAL (AUDITORIUM)	COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY REHEARSAL (AUDITORIUM)	
Period 3 9:15-10:09	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam			
Period 4 10:14-12:20	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam A Day	Senior Exam B Day	CLASS PHOTO (MAIN GYM)	
				C-LUNCH (CAFETERIA)	
Period 5 12:25-1:15	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam	SENIOR CELEBRATION BEGINS @ 12:15PM (AUDITORIUM)	
Period 6 1:20-2:10	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam Review	Senior Exam		

All seniors are required to attend school through Thursday, May 24, 2018

Attendance at ALL rehearsals is MANDATORY

**Senior Class Picnic
May 21 4:30-6pm
Centennial Park-Pavilion H**

HCPSS policies will be in effect for ALL Senior Activities!