

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO STUDENTS**

Graduation is a very exciting time of one's life. Please keep in mind that although you have earned your diploma, participation in the actual graduation ceremonies is a privilege that requires you to act responsibly. Throughout the end of the school year, all school rules are in effect. Students who violate policies and students who are suspended during any of the practices, the weekend of graduation or graduation day will not be permitted to participate in the ceremonies. Each year, no matter how many times we review the procedures and the rules, one or more seniors make a foolish choice that causes them to be removed from participation. Let's make a commitment that this year's Senior Class will be the first to have all students eligible for Graduation!

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS**

Frederick High School Message to the Graduates and Graduation are formal ceremonies. People who have attended our graduations in the past are generally overwhelmed by the atmosphere our students create as they work together with our staff to make Graduation a memorable experience. Please take time to read this communication carefully and to review all rules and procedures with your graduate. If you have questions, please contact the principal at 240-236-7056.

Dear Seniors and Parents:

Graduation for the Class of 2009 is **Monday, June 1**. This is a very important time of year for parents, graduates, and Frederick High School. To provide the best possible graduation ceremonies and other events, there are many procedures and much information to be relayed to you. Attached to this letter is a senior calendar and other information that allow students and parents to make plans for this busy and exciting time in their lives.

**FINAL DAY OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMS:** The last day for seniors is Friday, May 22, and is a full day of classes. The type of final exams varies from department to department. The **make-up exam** date is Tuesday, May 26. **Only students who miss their exam(s) on May 22 should report to school on May 26.**

**PROM:** The prom is Friday, May 22, at the Holiday Inn, FSK Mall, from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. Sign-up for the prom will be held May 4 through May 20 in the guidance office. Each senior planning to attend needs to sign-up and is permitted one guest. Any senior bringing a guest **must** check in with their guest. There is no charge for the prom. Appropriate dress is required and has been reviewed with seniors. All school rules are in effect.

**GRADUATION PRACTICES:** Graduation practice will be held on May 27, 28 and 29. **See attached calendar for specific practice times.** Students must report directly to the FHS gymnasium each day. Seniors should enter the building only through the gymnasium doors. Parking on school lot remains by permit only. Illegally parked cars may result in ticketing and/or towing. **SENIORS MUST ATTEND ALL PRACTICES, BE ON TIME, AND STAY FOR THE COMPLETE PRACTICE. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL NOT AFFECT WHETHER A STUDENT RECEIVES HIS/HER DIPLOMA BUT MAY JEOPARDIZE PARTICIPATION IN THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.** You need to be aware that **no commitments are to be made to excuse students from the graduation practice schedule. ANY SENIOR NOT ATTENDING ALL OF THE PRACTICES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CEREMONIES AND WILL BE GIVEN HIS/HER DIPLOMA, UPON REQUEST, THE MORNING AFTER GRADUATION BY CONTACTING THE SCHOOL OFFICE.** In the event of an emergency or an extenuating circumstance, please contact Ms. Fargo-Devine by calling 240-236-7056. Unfortunately, every year some senior fails to comply with these simple rules and he/she is not allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Caps and gowns that have been previously ordered will be distributed in the FHS gymnasium on Friday, May 22, during all four-lunch shifts. **SENIORS MUST BRING CAPS AND GOWNS TO PRACTICE ON FRIDAY, MAY 29, FOR THE SENIOR PICTURE.**

To this point many seniors have not ordered caps and gowns. If you wish to participate in commencement exercises, you must order a cap and gown now by contacting the Jostens' representative.

Tom Orme  
P.O. Box 532  
Timonium, MD 21093  
1-410-561-1403

**MESSAGE TO THE GRADUATES:** The Message to the Graduates will be held **Sunday, May 31, at 7:00 p.m. at Knott Arena.** Students receive **eight tickets** during practice for the ceremony. Every person including children must present a ticket. These tickets will be **gold** in color so as not to be confused with Graduation tickets. Attendance at this ceremony is required. (Map is attached.)

**GRADUATION:** Graduation is **Monday, June 1, at 1:00 p.m. at Knott Arena.** At Friday's practice students will receive **eight tickets** for the Graduation ceremony. These tickets will be **ivory** in color and **embossed** so as not to be confused with Message to the Graduate tickets. Please arrange to limit your guests for the ceremony to eight or make arrangements with other seniors who do not need all their tickets. Every person including children must present a ticket.

**Please refrain from approaching the stage and center aisle to take photos prior and during the ceremonies.** Photos can be taken after the ceremonies in these areas as well as outside.

Much has been discussed about “senior hook days” and senior pranks. Senior hook days are not recognized by the school; they are illegal absences. If the members of this senior class participate in any senior hook days, they will be required to serve time before or after practice assigned by the administration. Senior pranks are a disruption and will be handled according to the disciplinary code; participation in pranks could jeopardize a student’s participation in the Graduation ceremonies and end-of-year activities. Please keep in mind that participation in the Graduation ceremonies is a privilege. Any student behavior requiring disciplinary action could jeopardize a student’s participation.

We are all proud of what graduation from Frederick High School represents, as well as the tradition of this fine ceremony. Our commencement activities, the students who participate, and the audience that attends are regularly cited for the class, dignity, and esprit de corps that our graduation exercises exemplify. Let us continue the gracious manner in which our students conduct themselves and earn the respect of our parents, families, and guests for the Class of 2009.

Sincerely,

Denise Fargo-Devine