



# Pickens High School

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Carissa Parker CTAE Director



Good Morning Class of 2024,

Thank you all for attending the Senior Graduation Info meeting this morning. The last pages of this document are the “Class of 2024 Graduation Information” document that outlines everything we went over in our senior meeting this morning.

Please know/remember that the following questionnaires (students must be logged into their PHS Gmail account to access and complete the questionnaires) must be completed to graduate from PHS as this information is imperative to PHS helping your graduation experience be as wonderful and successful as possible:

**1) Class of 2024 Exit Questionnaire Before Graduation** - This questionnaire must be completed by ALL seniors by 5/3/24 in order to participate in the graduation ceremony on 5/24. It will ask you questions that are important for us to be aware of prior to graduation. You will also be given the option to select the elementary school that you want to visit during the 5/22 school walk-throughs. All graduates will walk-through both PJHS and JMS, then students will go to one of the three elementary schools that they attended. If you attended JES, then you can choose to visit HCES, HES, or TES.

**[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE CLASS OF 2024 EXIT QUESTIONNAIRE BEFORE GRADUATION](#)**

**2) Final Transcript Questionnaire** - This questionnaire allows you to tell us where you want a copy of your final transcript to be sent to (you can select up to 3 colleges). Please know that your final transcript will most likely be available to send out by mid-June (the counseling team sends transcripts after ALL transcripts have been reviewed for accuracy and after summer school is over) and will be updated in GA Futures by June 30th at the latest (this is the deadline for all final transcripts in the state of Georgia to be submitted). This means that your HOPE GPA (which you view and access via GA Futures) will be available for you to view after June 30th. Please remember that PHS does not calculate your HOPE GPA as GA Futures calculates it.

**[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE FINAL TRANSCRIPT QUESTIONNAIRE](#)**

3) As discussed in the 4/25 graduation senior info meeting, all seniors must be in good academic standing and have met all graduation requirements to participate in the 5/24 graduation ceremony.

## Pickens High School Class of 2024 Graduation Information

Event	Date/Time/Information
<b>Senior Honor Night</b>	<b>5/15 at 6pm in the PAC. Invitations are sent out.</b>
<b>PHS Walk-Through</b>	<b>5/16 at 2pm – Seniors will wear their caps and gowns and do a senior walk-through at PHS.</b>
<b>Yearbook Presentation</b>	<b>5/17 – 8:45 am – PHS (PAC).</b>
<b>Senior Luau</b>	<b>5/17 – 10:30am – Dunn Baseball Stadium Parking Lot.</b>
<b>Last Day of School for Seniors</b>	<b>5/17 – Last day for Seniors who are in good academic standing.</b>
<b>Varsity Field Day</b>	<b>5/20 – 9-11am Varsity Athletic Field Competitions</b>
<b>Elementary/JMS/PJHS Walk-Through</b>	<b>5/22 – 8:00 am – Report to the PAC at PHS and then the buses leave from PHS.</b>
<b>MANDATORY Graduation Practice</b>	<b>5/22 – 10:00 am – Report to New Gym.</b>
<b>MANDATORY Graduation Practice – *Rain Date*</b>	<b>5/23 – 8:00 am – If the 5/22 Mandatory Graduation Practice is cancelled due to rain, then this practice session will become mandatory. Report to New Gym at 8am.</b>
<b>Baccalaureate Service</b>	<b>5/23 – 6:00 pm – First Baptist Church of Jasper.</b>
<b>Report for Graduation</b>	<b>5/24 – 4:30 pm - Report to PHS Gym (New).</b>
<b>Class of 2024 Class Picture</b>	<b>5/24 - 5:00 pm – New Gym – Be dressed &amp; ready.</b>
<b>March to Stadium</b>	<b>5/24 – 6:30 pm – Line up for March to Stadium.</b>
<b>2024 Commencement Ceremony</b>	<b>5/24 – 7:00 pm – Dragon Stadium.</b>

**Senior Honor Night:** The senior honor night will take place on Wednesday, 5/15, at 6pm in the PAC at PHS. Invitations are sent out to students who will be receiving their honor graduate medal and/or other awards that night. Many local scholarships are awarded and recognized at this event.

**PHS Senior Walk-Through:** Seniors will wear their caps and gowns and do a senior walk-through at PHS on Thursday, 5/16. Seniors will meet in the old gym at 1:50pm.

**Yearbook Presentation:** Senior Class Yearbook Presentation will take place in the PAC.

**Senior Luau:** The Senior Luau will take place at 10:30am at the Dunn Baseball Stadium Parking Lot.

**Last Day of School:** Seniors who have completed all required work and are passing their classes will not be required to attend the last week of school (5/20-5/24).

**Varsity Field Day:** On Monday, 5/20, from 9-11am there will be Varsity Athletic Field Competitions in which there will be a pre-registration process including team fees required in order to participate.

**Elementary/JMS/PJHS Walk-Throughs:** On Wednesday, 5/22, the graduates will meet in the PAC at 8am. The graduates are given the opportunity to walk through the schools in our district with their cap and gown. This is opportunity is **optional**. Please know that this is a great chance to be recognized by former teachers and future PHS students. Participating students should wear their caps and gowns.

**MANDATORY Graduation Practice:** The mandatory graduation practice will be on Wednesday, 5/22, following the school walk-throughs. **Seniors who do not attend this practice will not participate in the ceremony.** All graduates must be in the new gym by 10am for the mandatory graduation practice (after we return from the school walk-throughs). This gives our graduating seniors the opportunity to walk through the details of the ceremony in the venue(s) where it will take place. We will practice in the stadium, as well as in the Gym. A rain day has been set for the following morning (5/23) should this practice not take place. Please make sure that you are available for both days, in the event of rain. Students do not have to wear their cap and/or gown to the practice. It is recommended that they wear the shoes they plan to graduate in.

**Chromebooks:** All school issued Chromebooks and their parts (charger, etc.) must be turned in before a student can graduate. Seniors will be able to turn their Chromebooks in to Mr. Lo in the PAC and/or the new gym on 5/22 before the school walk-throughs and the outside graduation practice. Chromebooks can ONLY be turned in to Mr. Lo and will only be turned in on 5/22 (no Chromebooks can be turned in on the day of graduation). Please know that the following prices will apply for anything that is broken and/or missing: \$10 for missing chargers, \$40 for broken screens, \$25 for broken keyboards, and \$180 for missing Chromebooks.

**Baccalaureate Service:** This non-denominational and faith-based church service is held to honor our graduates and send them off with a message of hope and inspiration as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. This event is optional for students, families, staff, and the community to attend.

### **Other Important Graduation Information:**

**Parking Passes:** Everyone entering Dragon Drive on May 24<sup>th</sup> must have a parking pass (including graduates). Each graduate will be given **3 parking passes** and **4 graduation tickets** (to be used in case the ceremony is moved indoors) on the day of graduation practice (May 22<sup>th</sup>). Please know that all patrons parking in a handicap spot must also use one of the three parking passes from their graduate (handicap permits do not count as an individual parking pass). The PHS campus will open at 4:30 p.m. on May 24<sup>th</sup>. More information regarding parking on campus, parking at other locations, and shuttle options from other parking locations will be made public closer to graduation. Please plan to carpool and use shuttles as much as possible.

**Graduation Day:** Report to the PHS New Gym/PAC entry by 4:30 p.m. We will be taking the group graduation photo at 5:00 p.m. We would like for all graduates to be dressed and ready by 4:45 p.m. for this photo. **Please do not be late.** It will be extremely difficult to get onto Dragon Drive if you do not plan to get here early. We would like to include every graduate in the photo, if possible.

**Cap, Gown and Tassel:** Students **must** wear the official green cap, gown, and tassel distributed through Jostens, our provider for graduation items. They **cannot** substitute a different tassel or add an additional tassel to their cap for this ceremony. They **cannot** decorate or alter in any way their cap, gown, nor tassel. The “Diamond P” patch will be added to each student’s gown upon arrival the day of graduation and will be part of each student’s attire during this ceremony.

**Expectations of Attire Under Gown:** Each student is expected to wear either 1) a dress or 2) a white dress shirt (preferably with a dark tie), black slacks underneath the gown, and dark shoes with socks. If wearing a dress, then dress shoes (high heels are not recommended) or sandals can be worn. Athletic/tennis shoes, flip-flops, Crocs, etc., are not acceptable. Dark boots are allowed to be worn. Please do your part to look sharp for this event. If students need assistance in obtaining these items, then they should reach out to their school counselor (preferably before 5/20). We will make sure we do our best to provide these items for any who need assistance.

**Diplomas:** Graduates will receive their green diploma cover during the ceremony and their official diploma after the ceremony concludes. After the ceremony, graduates will go to the concession stand on the visitor’s side of the football field to retrieve their official diploma from the PHS staff members who are handing them out. All graduation requirements must be met in order for graduates to both walk and receive their official diplomas on graduation night and place the official diploma in the green diploma cover that the graduates received during the graduation ceremony.

**Behavior Expectations:** Each student is expected to exhibit and maintain good conduct and behavior before, during, and after the commencement ceremony. Significant discipline issues on or off campus prior to the ceremony can affect their participation.

### **Guests and Graduate Expectations:**

- Artificial noise makers (air horns, cowbells, megaphones, bull horns, etc.) and/or signs are distracting and thus, are not allowed during the ceremony.
- Cheering and clapping are encouraged.
- Any negative comments, booing, or other disrespectful gestures will not be tolerated.
- Pickens High School is a drug, alcohol, tobacco, and vape free campus.
- Pets are not allowed on our campus at any time for any event.

Thank you for your help in adhering to these requirements. We want to ensure a safe and enjoyable event for all in attendance. We are incredibly proud of our graduating seniors!