

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATION 2017

I. SENIOR SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- Tuesday, April 4 Senior Class Meeting – 8:30-10:45 a.m. (approximate ending time) in the UHS Auditorium – distribution of senior orders (cards, announcements, cap and gown, etc.)
- Friday, May 5 Senior Picnic at UHS – 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Bring a blanket or beach towel, sunscreen, frisbee, balls)
- Saturday, May 6 Promenade: UHS Auditorium – 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Prom: WVU Erickson Alumni Center – 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.
After Prom: WVU Recreation Center – 11:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.
Seniors must present UHS ID and must enter by 12:30 with preapproved guests. UHS Seniors who do not attend the prom are invited to the After Prom. This is a free event. It is not a UHS sponsored event. It is organized by a group of UHS parents.
- Tuesday, May 9 Senior Awards Night – 6:30 p.m. – Auditorium (Dress clothes)
- Wednesday, May 10 Senior White Day (must meet school dress code)/
Senior Breakfast in cafeteria (1st period)
- Friday, May 12 Senior Exams – 1st Period, 3rd Period, 5th Period, 7th Period
- Monday, May 15 Senior Exams – 2nd Period, 4th Period, 6th Period, 8th Period
- Tuesday, May 16 Senior Make-up Exams
- Thursday, May 18 **MANDATORY GRADUATION PRACTICE** – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at **University High**. Cap and gown are needed for photo (Gown must be pressed). Class Photo – 11:30 a.m. (approximate) Red Gymnasium **(Remember to bring Cap and Gown). Be on time or early!**
- Friday, May 19 **MANDATORY GRADUATION PRACTICE** – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at **WVU Coliseum** (no cap/gown needed). Please **DO NOT** bring food or drinks into the Community Center.
- Friday, May 19 **GRADUATION** – 7:00 p.m. You must report to Coliseum **no later** than 6:30 p.m. Remember to bring your cap with tassel and gown. Tell parents and guests that the Coliseum will be open at 6:00 p.m. There is plenty of seating available. Programs will be distributed at entrances and will be placed on the graduates' chairs.

****NOTE:** Students must make arrangements to attend **both mandatory** (9 am -12 pm) practices in order to participate in the ceremony. Questions may be directed to Mrs. Greene.

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATION 2017

II. PARTICIPATION IN THE CEREMONY

Participating in the Commencement Ceremony is a privilege given to students who meet all academic requirements for a high school diploma, who attend required practices for the ceremony, who dress in accordance with the ceremony requirements (cap, gown, etc.) and who follow behavioral standards for participation. Students who do not meet all these expectations may not participate in the ceremony and should come to the school during the school week following the ceremony to pick up the diploma (during normal school hours). Students who plan not to participate in the graduation ceremony must provide a parent note to the principal, Mrs. Greene, prior to May 11, 2017.

III. TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS

Teachers will be assigned to lead lines for practice on May 18 and 19, and at Commencement on May 19. More information will be announced at the UHS Graduation Practice.

IV. CAPS AND GOWNS/HONOR SOCIETY SASHES/MTEC CORDS/COMMUNITY SERVICE MEDALLIONS

A. Appearance

1. When you get your gown, take it out of the container and hang it on a hanger. Press with an iron on light heat setting.
2. Hanging your gown above a tub of steaming water or placing it in the dryer for 10 minutes on low will help remove wrinkles.
3. The gown must be pressed for the photograph on Thursday, May 18 and for Commencement night on May 19.

B. Dressing

At Commencement seniors will put their gowns on in the assigned area. You will dress there and line up for the processional at practice and at Commencement. Only the graduate is permitted in the dressing and line up areas. You will become familiar with these areas during our practice on Friday morning.

1. Secure your tassel to your cap so that you do not lose it. We do NOT have replacements.
2. Other adornments should not be added to the cap, gown, or tassel worn at the ceremony.

C. Honor Society Sashes/MTEC Cords/Community Service Medallions

The following graduation items are the **ONLY** items that may be worn with the cap and gown: NHS sash, Mu Alpha Theta math honorary society cord, AP scholar cord MTEC cord and community service medallion. No other items may be added to the graduation apparel.

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATION 2017

V. CEREMONY LOCATION

We are fortunate to have a venue for our ceremony that provides abundant seating and parking for guests. The Coliseum is not air conditioned. Although the Coliseum typically hosts athletic events, it is important to note that your graduation ceremony is a dignified event where behavior should not be similar to behaviors at athletic events. The behaviors of all participants should reflect pride in your accomplishments and maturity in your actions. Please respect your classmates' rights to hear and experience all aspects of the ceremony. It is important for each graduate and their guests to hear the graduate's name called and to observe, uninterrupted, as the graduate crosses the stage to receive his/her diploma. Each student deserves to have their "moment" being the center of attention. Please do not ruin these moments for your classmates. It is clear that the Class of 2017 has a high level of maturity and respect for their classmates so this should not be a challenge for you. Those candidates for graduation who disrupt the ceremony in any way may lose the privilege of participating in the entire ceremony. Please share with your guests that horns, noisemakers, large packages, balloons, etc. are inappropriate inside the Coliseum during this formal ceremony. Also, please share with your guests that WVU is a tobacco free campus. For guests with ADA placards, ADA parking is available near the Coliseum Blue Gate.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

On Thursday, May 18, seniors will practice for graduation at 9:00 a.m. in the Red Gym. Seniors **MUST** attend practice in order to participate in the commencement ceremony. Following this practice, the senior group photo will be taken in the RED GYM - line up at approximately 11:30 a.m. You must have your cap, gown and tassel.

On Friday, May 19, 2017, seniors **MUST** attend the 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon practice at the WVU Coliseum in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. There will be no exceptions to the practice requirement (two practices prior to the ceremony). This practice will last until we get the program right. Your cooperation will mean an early dismissal. We will not collect monies at the practice. All debts must be paid prior to practice. Caps and gowns are NOT needed at this practice.

Graduation - 7:00 p.m. - Friday, May 19, WVU Coliseum - Meet in the tunnel no later than 6:30 p.m. Doors will be open for guests at 6:00 p.m. **Do NOT forget cap, gown and tassel.**

Please be prompt, but drive carefully to and from practice sessions; we want every student to arrive safely. The length of rehearsal will depend upon the cooperation of all students.

At Commencement, meet in the assigned dressing area/tunnel no later than 6:30 p.m. When you receive your diploma, return to your seating area at once. The class remains standing throughout the processional until the designated class officer gives the signal to sit down. PLEASE SIT DOWN TOGETHER. We will practice the timing. The class will rise on signal for the recessional.

Graduates should leave their purses, jackets, cell phones, etc. with their parents during the ceremony. Ladies may NOT carry a purse during commencement. Gentlemen are to wear light or white shirts, dark trousers, ties, socks and shoes. Ladies are to wear pastel or white dresses or neat pants suits. If ladies wear heels, make sure the heels are comfortable for walking.

**UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION 2017**

Prior to the start of the ceremony, arrange a location with parents/guardians and guests to meet after the ceremony. Best options for a post-ceremony meeting place may be on the outside perimeter of the Coliseum. Stage set-up has changed this year and guests will not be permitted on the Coliseum floor.

Please don't talk during any part of the program, processional or recessional. It is polite to say "thank you" when you receive your diploma. You should NOT have gum during rehearsals or during the graduation ceremony. Please accept your diploma with your left hand while shaking the hand of Principal Greene with your right hand.

Look at the camera when receiving your diploma. Mortar boards are to be worn parallel with the top of your head - not tilted backward or forward. You should not attach anything to or decorate your mortar board or gown. Tassels go on the right side.

You must know the Alma Mater for graduation - if you don't, please cut this copy out and tape inside your cap.

UHS ALMA MATER

**Though the passing years may part us,
We will ere be true, to our dear old
Alma Mater:
Hail, Oh, Hail to you.**

**We will ever sing together
Songs of victory
To our dear old Alma Mater;
Hail, Oh, Hail to thee.**