



BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Boyertown Area Senior High School

“to enable all students to succeed in a changing world”

May, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the Class of 2019 approaches their final days at BASH, I personally want to congratulate the students and parents for the successful completion of thirteen years of educational experiences. The culminating step on our journey together – the commencement ceremony – is right around the corner!

For the commencement ceremony, appropriate attire **MUST** consist of dress shoes (NO OPEN-TOED SHOES - e.g., sandals, flip flops, etc.), dress pants (NO SHORTS/NO JEANS/NO KHAKIS), dress shirt and tie, or a skirt and top, or dress. Bare feet are NOT permitted. ALL seniors are subject to be searched and they may only have their cap, gown, and car key with them for the ceremony. Seniors are not permitted to bring anything to the commencement ceremony with them and this includes backpacks, purses, bags, cell phones, electronic devices, make-up, sunglasses, etc.

Commencement ceremonies are traditionally solemn and dignified so that all individuals participating and those watching can enjoy a very special and memorable occasion. It is important for all of us to refrain from behavior (e.g. tossing beach balls, calling out loud, using noise-makers, etc.) of any type which will detract from that tone.

Any prospective graduate who makes the decision to compromise the dignified intent of the commencement ceremony will be escorted by school resource personnel from the ceremony. Failure to comply with school resource personnel during any escort request will result in removal from the commencement venue via law enforcement and the possibility of a defiant trespassing citation.

Graduating seniors who disrupt the commencement ceremony will not receive their diploma until the administratively determined consequential obligations (e.g. detention(s), suspensions, community service, etc.), as the result of their choice to disrupt the ceremony, have been fulfilled.

I am asking for your assistance in speaking with your son/daughter relative to appropriate decorum at our commencement ceremony. Please remind them to exercise socially correct behavior throughout the entire ceremony. We covet your cooperation by keeping the ceremony free from the following items:

- Noise-making devices that would disrupt our ceremony (e.g. whistles, cow bells, air horns, etc.)
- Beach balls, super balls, or any other objects to be thrown
- Bubbles or flowers, except the presented class flowers, in the graduate/stage seating area
- Signs or markings on gowns or mortarboards

I will be speaking with the Class of 2019 during their rehearsal on June 7, 2019 to discuss our “etiquette expectations.” During commencement, families and guests are asked to be respectful and considerate of others. Let’s make sure that every parent, guardian, family member, and friend hears the first and last name of their graduate just prior to the student walking across the stage to receive his/her diploma. Thank you, in advance, for assisting me in speaking with your son/daughter to support a dignified commencement ceremony for the Class of 2019.

This year the commencement ceremony will be streaming live for those who cannot attend in person. The following Link will allow streaming live on the district’s YouTube page at this address:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBASDTV>

Please feel free to contact my office with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

E. Wayne Foley, Ed.D.
Principal