

Prospect Commencement – May 27, 2018

12:30 p.m.

Commencement Ceremony

- **Location**
The Commencement of Prospect High School will be held Sunday, May 27, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. in the George Gattas Memorial Stadium. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Jean Walker Field House.
- **Graduate Arrival and Ceremony Time**
 - Graduates should report to the gymnasium appropriately attired with cap and gown no later than **11:30 a.m.** As there is limited parking, parents are asked to drop off graduates at school.
 - Stadium gate opens at 11:30 a.m. In case of inclement weather, doors to the field house will open at 11:30 a.m. for seating.
 - Graduates should leave all valuables at home.
 - The ceremony will begin at 12:30 p.m. and last approximately 1½ hours. Following the ceremony, graduates will proceed to the cafeteria to pick up their actual diplomas.
- **Inclement Weather**
The decision to move the ceremony indoors will be made early Sunday morning. If the ceremony is moved indoors, an automated call will be placed to seniors' homes and a mass email sent. In addition, the message that the ceremony has moved indoors will be placed on the Prospect website: pms.d214.org
- **Flowers**
For your convenience, flowers for graduates will be available for purchase. To maintain uniform appearance, students will not be permitted to wear or carry flowers during the ceremony. Please save any flowers until after the ceremony.
- **Smoke-free Campus**
Prospect High School is a smoke-free campus. No smoking will be tolerated before, during, or after the ceremony.

Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal

- Graduation rehearsal is **mandatory** for all who choose to participate in the ceremony. Rehearsal is **Friday, May 25**, at 7:30 a.m. in the field house.
- Rehearsal will end around 10 a.m. and the graduates will then be dismissed.
- Students who have met all school obligations (detention time, library fines, return of books, athletic equipment, financial obligations, etc.) will be given their commencement tickets at the rehearsal.
- **Following the rehearsal, seniors are asked to leave the campus immediately.** They will not be allowed to return to their lockers or the academic wing. It is imperative that lockers be cleared before Friday.

Tickets and Seating Arrangements

- **Distribution of Tickets**
Weather permitting, this year's commencement will take place outside. Tickets are not needed for an outdoor ceremony. Each graduate will be given four tickets for admission to the field house in the event the ceremony is moved indoors due to inclement weather. Students who have met all school obligations (detention time, library fines, return of books, athletic equipment, financial obligations, etc.) will be given their commencement tickets at the Friday rehearsal. Additional tickets are **not** available through school.
- **Seating for Persons with Disabilities**
Indoor and outdoor bleachers are ADA compliant. There is additional seating (folding chairs) on the track in the stadium and on the main floor in the field house behind the graduates. Wheel chair access is available. Both outside and inside designated spaces are available for the guest with special needs and one family member. Golf cart service is available from the gate of the stadium to the track area.
- **Seating Chart**
The commencement-seating chart will be posted during lunch periods on Thursday, May 24 before graduation in the commons area and on the day of graduation practice in the field house and will be emailed to students.

Dress Code for Graduates

For the safety of the students participating in the commencement ceremony as they walk on the lawn, up and down steps, and across the stage, graduates are expected to follow the below guides for acceptable dress. **Students not adhering to this dress code will not be permitted to participate in the ceremony.**

- **Girls**
Dress, skirt and top, or dress slacks and top are all appropriate. Because of the artificial turf, absolutely no spiked heels are allowed. We strongly recommend flats or shoes with stacked heels (no tennis shoes, sports shoes or "flip-flops"). **Jeans or shorts are unacceptable.**
- **Boys**
Collared shirt (optional tie), dress slacks, dark socks, and dress shoes (no tennis shoes, sports shoes, sandals, or "flip-flops"). **Jeans or shorts are unacceptable.**

Graduates are encouraged to wear all honor stoles, cords and tassels for the ceremony.

Caps, Gowns and Diplomas

- Graduates may keep their gowns, caps and tassels.
- After the commencement recessional, graduates should immediately proceed to the Cafeteria (enter door 30) to receive their actual diplomas.

Photography

- **Professional Photography:** Lifetouch Photography will photograph graduates immediately after they receive their diploma covers.
Proofs will be mailed home 2-3 weeks after the graduation ceremony. Portraits can be viewed online at Events.lifetouch.com.
A brochure is enclosed. For questions regarding photography, please contact Lifetouch Photography at 800-505-9496.
- Guests may not leave their seats to take photographs.
- A “no-frills” DVD of the graduation ceremony, recorded by Prospect staff may be pre-ordered for \$7. Please see enclosed form.

For Our Parents and Guests

- The stadium can be very warm on a sunny day. Remember sunscreen, sun hats and sunglasses. Water will be available for purchase at the concession stand.
- There will be the traditional cap throwing at the end of the ceremony. Have your cameras ready!
- Graduates will proceed to the cafeteria (door 30) following the ceremony, if indoors, where they will be given their actual diplomas.
- The commencement ceremony is scheduled to last approximately 1½ hours. If you are planning a party afterwards, you might take into consideration time for seniors to pick up the diploma as well as time to take photos.

Schedule of Events

Monday, May 21

- Senior finals – all day

Wednesday, May 23

- Senior obligations posted in Main Office and Student Activities Office by 10 a.m.
- Honors Assembly/Senior Awards

Thursday, May 24

- Seniors must meet all school obligations (detention time, library fines, return of books, athletic equipment, financial obligations, etc.) before picking up their caps and gowns.

- Cap and gown distribution in the Wrestling Room during lunch periods
- Commencement seating chart posted in the commons during lunch periods
- Senior Class BBQ – lunch periods in the Stadium
- Senior Class ice cream social and slide show

Friday, May 25

- **Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal, 7:30-10 a.m.** (Donuts and bagels served in field house foyer at 7am)
- Graduation tickets distributed during rehearsal (four tickets per graduate in the event the ceremony is moved inside).
- Prom

Sunday, May 27

- Commencement Ceremony - 12:30 p.m.
11:30 a.m. Graduates report to the gymnasium
12:30 p.m. Ceremony begins