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FEBRUARY 2017 SENIOR BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2017

****IMPORTANT****

Please read this bulletin carefully and follow all instructions in it! We cannot individually check your responsibilities. Make sure the last weeks of school are the best of your career.

A. ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance until the end of school is an absolute must. Absences not properly excused will be considered truanancies with accompanying disciplinary action.

B. OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each senior must see that ALL obligations are fulfilled before receiving his/her diploma. This includes credits, fees, cap and gown, announcements, disciplinary matters, and all other obligations. ALL books must be returned to the school and fines paid. All equipment, books, materials, and athletic items must be turned in or paid for.

All obligations must be cleared up no later than 12:00 P.M. Friday, April 14th in order to receive your diploma on graduation day and attend prom. No personal checks can be accepted after Friday, April 14, 2017.

C. CAPS AND GOWNS

Caps and gowns will be distributed the week of May 1st at the high school. More details will be forth coming.

D. COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL

Rehearsal for commencement will be held at Barberton High School on **Friday, May 19th 2017, at 8:00 a.m.** It will last approximately a few hours. Attendance is **MANDATORY**. The rest of that day may be used to make certain any outstanding obligations are taken care of. Otherwise, you will receive an empty diploma cover on graduation day.

**** NOTE --- IMPORTANT****

Each senior is to be in his/her seat in the commons by 7:45 A.M. An assigned seat will be given to you as you enter the commons. The rehearsal will include specific instructions for commencement. We will rehearse the processional and recessional and go over the entire program in detail. **REHEARSAL FOR GRADUATION IS MANDATORY!! YOU MUST BE THERE...IF YOU ARE NOT AT REHEARSAL YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.**

E. COMMENCEMENT

WHERE: E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall

WHEN: MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m..

Tickets will be required for family and guests to attend graduation. Each student will be given five tickets. Students will be able to purchase extra tickets after graduation rehearsal. Extra tickets will be on sale for \$5.00 each and the number of tickets available for each student to purchase will be announced on or before May 12, 2017. *You will be able to pick up your tickets AFTER graduation rehearsal and after you have completed a senior checkout form. ALL obligations must be taken care of before you will be given your tickets for graduation. Obligations include but are not limited to Senior hours, fees, all books returned, etc.*

If you need special seating arrangements for disabled family members or guests, see Mrs. Wesolowski before or after graduation practice. You will not need a special ticket for the reserved handicapped seating section. Please understand that this seating is limited and only one additional guest will be permitted seating in this section.

DIRECTIONS TO E.J. THOMAS PERFORMING ARTS HALL

76 East to Wolf Ledges/Grant St. Exit. Turn left at first street (Wolf Ledges). Continue on Wolf Ledges until you go under a bridge. Turn left onto Grant St; this dead-ends into E.J. Thomas. Turn right onto University Ave. and left at the first light (Hill St.). Parking is available on Hill St. and inside E.J. Thomas. (198 Hill St. Akron, OH)

Arrival Time

Graduates' arrival time must be before **6:30 P.M.** Attendance will be taken at **6:40 P.M.** At that time, diplomas for absent graduates are put aside. Graduates should bring their gowns, complete with caps and tassels. Additional information will be received at graduation rehearsal.

Where to Meet Parents after Recessional

All rows will exit to the right of EJ Thomas Hall. The row captains will lead each row across the lobby and up the stairs to the Goodrich Lobby (second floor) for dismissal. This is where your family and guests should meet you.

F. DIPLOMAS

Students who have outstanding obligations and who do not receive their diplomas at commencement will be able to pick up their diplomas in the Principal's Office after fulfilling their obligation. All other students will receive their correct diplomas during the ceremony. Notify Mrs. Wesolowski **immediately** after the ceremony should you receive a diploma other than your own or if there is any problem with your diploma.

G. TRANSCRIPTS

Final transcript applications are to be filled out in the Guidance Office by **Friday, May 5th, 2017 no later than 11:00 A.M.**

H. COMMENCEMENT DRESS CODE

GIRLS – dresses or dress pants and tops and shoes. Although the girls receive a collar piece in their cap and gown package, collars are **not** to be worn. They do not add to the appearance and are a bother.

BOYS – dark trousers and shoes; shirt with collar and tie to be worn. Shoes are required. **NO** sandals or tennis shoes are allowed. Your apparel will be checked during the assembly period before commencement.

STUDENTS WHO DO NOT DRESS FORMALLY WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CEREMONY AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

I. ALMA MATER

Your last official act at graduation as a student of Barberton High School is to sing the Alma Mater. Many seniors seem to be unfamiliar with the words to the school Alma Mater. In hopes that the Class of 2017 will distinguish itself by singing the Alma Mater in strong, clear voices, please memorize the words, which follow:

ALMA MATER, DEAR BARBERTON
ALMA MATER, BRAVE AND STRONG
ALMA MATER, WE HAIL THEE
THROUGH ALL THE AGES LONG

ALMA MATER, DEAR BARBERTON
AS WE READ THY STORY O'ER
WE REVERE THEE AND CHEER THEE
AS WE SING THY PRAISE ONCE MORE

Many graduates like to toss their caps in the air to celebrate their graduated status. Each year we seem to have much confusion as to when this is done. This year, if you choose to toss your mortarboard in the air:

1. Before graduation, put a piece of masking tape on the inside and write your name **clearly** on it.
2. Take off the tassel and hold it as you sing verse 1 of the Alma Mater.
3. As you sing “praise once more”, toss them all up together on the word “more”.
4. After the ceremony when everyone is in the lobbies, come back in and find your cap. If you can’t return to pick it up then, we will take it back to the high school and you can pick it up at a later date.

J. COMMENCEMENT PICTURES

Pictures of each student receiving his/her diploma on stage will be taken by Woodard Photography/Lifetouch. After graduation you can log on to their website to purchase pictures. Click on View/Purchase Photos, Click on Action Photos; Click on Barberton H.S. More information will be distributed at graduation rehearsal.

K. IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, April 17, 2017 Service Learning Hours must be complete. If you need assistance, see Mrs. Wesolowski immediately!!!

Monday, April 17th, 2017 Senior Academic Recognition Ceremony at BHS at 5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 19th, 2017. Graduation rehearsal 8:00 A.M. at Barberton High School.
Attendance is MANDATORY.

Monday, May 22nd, 2017 Graduation: Report to your assigned area at E.J. Thomas Hall at 6:30 P.M. Attendance will be taken at 6:40 P.M. Diplomas may be pulled for anyone not present at 6:40 p.m. for attendance

E. J. THOMAS Performing Arts Hall The University of Akron

The following information is designed to help the graduates and high schools plan for the most satisfying and memorable experience possible.

- Everyone entering the lobby doors, regardless of age, **MUST** have a ticket to enter the building. This includes babes in arms, regardless if they are using a seat or not.
- The main doors to the building are locked until an hour prior to your event.

- There is police presence both inside and outside of E. J. Thomas Hall.
- Parking for graduation is complimentary in any University of Akron lot. Police will direct you to the nearest available parking lot.
- If you have a handicap or physically challenged guest, please have them park in the EJ parking deck. Due to space limitations, we permit one (1) companion with the handicapped guest. Other family members can find seats nearby. EJ Thomas does have a wheelchair to transport guests to a seat in the auditorium. The patron must transfer to a regular chair or bring their own wheelchair. Guests with special needs are encouraged to arrive early to be sure that their needs can be accommodated.
- Leave valuables, purses, cameras, etc., in the care of your guests before graduation.
- For security reasons, parents/guests are not permitted to bring in backpacks or boxes. All bottles, cans, outside food or beverage of any kind, weapons, air horns, and laser pointers are prohibited.
- Helium balloons or balloons of any kind are not permitted in the building.
- Unruly guests will be asked to leave. Guests who interrupt the recital of senior names will delay the ceremony and will be removed.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices with sound should be turned off or placed on vibrate during the ceremony.
- Out of courtesy to all those in attendance, photography is permitted from your seat. Tripods that block the aisle are not permitted in the auditorium. All aisles are to remain clear. There is no standing room in the entryway for photography purposes.
- If tickets are being used, balcony seating will open when the Orchestra and Grand Tier levels are full. Patron Services Manager will monitor and determine opening of the balcony.
- Seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis. Graduation guests that are “saving seats” should be instructed that, ten minutes prior to graduation all unoccupied seats will be filled with guests needing seats.
- All seating is on a first-come-first-served basis; guests with special needs should plan to arrive early. Guests with special needs are encouraged to arrive early to be sure that their needs can be accommodated.
- A special sound system for the hearing impaired is available free-of-charge at the Information Counter in the main lobby by presenting a picture ID.
- E. J. Thomas is a smoke-free facility. Smoking is permitted outside of the building.
- E. J. Thomas closes 45 minutes following the conclusion of your graduation.

L. SENIOR EXAMS

The seniors' last day for regular classes before assessments start is Wednesday, May 10th. Final assessments for seniors will be administered Thursday and Friday, May 11th and 12th. Your teachers will give specific instructions concerning each assessment. The make-up date for any assessments that are missed must be Monday, 15th. A final assessment activity **must** be completed for each class unless the student has met the policy for exemption from the exam (Board Policy #6.040). Students in early placement work situations with vocational classes need to check with each teacher to arrange to take their assessments. Be certain all assessment activities are completed so that it does not cause you to lose credit for a class and have to return for the fall semester or attend summer school. **No matter what grade you are receiving in a class, you do NOT receive credit for the class until the assessment is taken.**

- (1) Students will report to their regular classrooms or to the Media Center. Some lab or shop classes may be assigned to an alternate room. Your teacher will let you know where you are to report. Attached is a “**special study**” permit that will allow a student to remain at home **except** during those times assigned for one of their exams. Additional permission slips will be available in the Main Office. Students are expected to dress in accordance with the provisions of the school dress code during final exams. If you violate the code, you may be sent home and the time will be counted against you.
- (2) Each assessment will take the entire time allotted. Each and every class must have an assessment. However, not all assessments are the traditional written variety.
- (3) There is no acceptable excuse for missing an assessment other than a documented illness or funeral. Remember, no matter what grade you are receiving in a class, you do **NOT receive credit for a class until the assessment is taken!**
- (4) If a senior meets the requirements for the senior exam policy, (Board Policy #6.040), he or she will be excused from those exams for which they qualify.

Board Policy #6.040

A. Seniors may be excused from a second semester senior year exam when:

1. He or she earns or is earning an “A” or “B” for each of the grading periods second semester.
2. He or she has not had any assignments to Thursday School or out of school suspensions or detentions (assigned by that classroom teacher) or teacher referrals to an administrator during the entire second semester.
3. Attendance must clearly fall within the accepted guidelines.