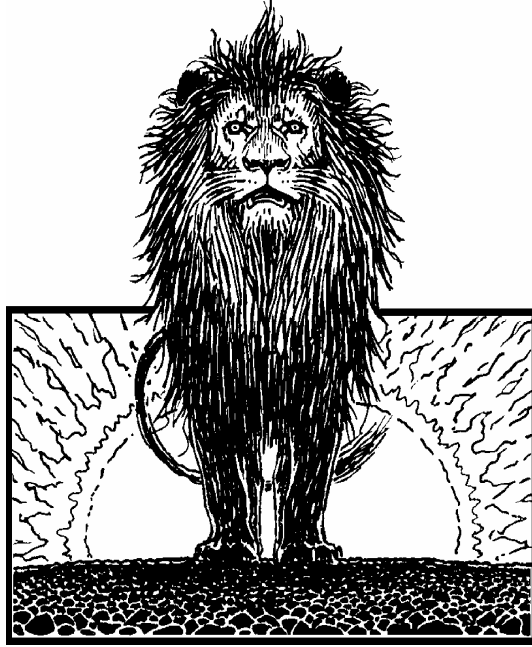


Howard High School



Class of 2008

*Senior Activities
&*

Commencement Instructions

Gina Massella, Principal

Mark Covington, Assistant Principal

Steve Levy, Assistant Principal

Lisa Veslany, Assistant Principal

Michael Duffy, Athletic and Activities Manager

Howard High School

Success Is The Only Option

Dear Senior,

You will find this information very helpful during your final weeks at Howard High School. We are giving you this information at this time so that you may begin to make plans for your senior activities. Attendance at graduation practices is mandatory if you wish to participate in the graduation ceremony. All HSA (High School Assessment) requirements must be met in order to graduate. If you still need to take a HSA and it is scheduled at the same time as a senior exam or other activity, the HSA takes precedent. If that is the case, you will need to make arrangements with your teacher as to when you are able to make up your senior final. The HSA takes precedence over all other activities/tests. Please share this information with your parents.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Thursday, May 1	Dance Concert -- 7:00 p.m.
Friday, May 2	Dance Concert -- 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 3	SAT's
Tuesday, May 6	Spring Concert -- 7:00 p.m. (Chorus/Jazz)
Wednesday, May 7	Spring Concert - 7:00 p.m. (Band) Senior Teach Day Outstanding obligations due to all seniors from teachers. If all obligations are not cleared, no graduation tickets will be issued.
Friday, May 9	Senior Prom 8-12pm, Turf Valley
Wednesday, May 14	All obligations must be cleared by the end of the day. See Ms. Bowman if you have any questions.
Thursday, May 15	Senior Exam, Period 6
Friday, May 16	Senior Boat Trip - Lady Baltimore 6:30-10 p.m. No school for students
Monday, May 19	HSA American Government Classes Periods 1, 2, 3 Senior Exams Periods 4B, 5 Caps/Gowns Distributed Period 6
Tuesday, May 20	HSA English Classes Periods 1, 2 Senior Exams Periods 3, 4A Mandatory Graduation Practice Periods 5, 6
Wednesday, May 21	HSA Biology Senior Exams Periods 1, 2 Classes Periods 3, 4B Mandatory Graduation Practice Periods 5, 6
Thursday, May 22	HSA Algebra Class Picture 7:30 am Mandatory Graduation Practice 8:45 am - 10:45 am Classes Senior Awards Assembly – 7:00 pm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday, May 23	Senior Breakfast - 7:30 - 9:00 am Mandatory Graduation Practice 9 am – 12 pm Graduation Tickets handed out
Wednesday, May 28	Graduation Practice 8 am – 10 am (if necessary)
Thursday, May 29	Graduation 8 am, Merriweather

GRADUATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **You do not have to participate in the graduation ceremony in order to receive a diploma. Parents must submit a written request for non-participation to Ms. Massella by May 9, 2008**
2. **Although participation in the graduation is voluntary, attendance at all graduation practices is mandatory in order to participate in the exercise. Be on time and stay for the full time.**
3. **Caps and gowns are required attire for the graduation ceremony and the Awards Assembly.**
 - a. **Seniors should wear their caps straight on their heads with the deep part at the back and the tassel over the left temple.**
 - b. **Some of the caps will not fit easily with all present hair fashions. Adjust your hair fashion accordingly.**
 - c. **Gowns should be brought up on the shoulders in the back.**
 - d. **Females should wear an all-white or light pastel dress or slip, light shade stockings, and white shoes. Avoid large earrings and bracelets.**
 - e. **Males should wear a white or light colored shirt, dark background necktie and dark pants, dark shoes and dark socks. No sneakers, tennis shoes, boots, or other such footwear will be allowed. For safety reasons no Flip Flops may be worn. All shirts are to be buttoned and collars inside the gown.**
4. When you receive your cap and gown, hang it up in the bathroom with steam. Wrinkles do not come out when the gowns stay in the bags. Do not use any kind of iron on your gown. It will melt your gown and destroy your iron.
5. During the ceremony:
 - a. When crossing the stage, walk briskly.
 - b. Posture straight—heads up—proud appearance—smile—show a sense of pride.
 - c. Spacing 6 to 8 feet while walking.
 - d. Stand for the National Anthem. Gentlemen remove their caps.
6. All Howard County School System policies and school rules will remain in effect and will be enforced. Please do not jeopardize your privilege to receive a diploma. Listen! Pay attention! If you do not cooperate during practices, you will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.
7. Each graduate will receive 8 graduation tickets at practice on Friday, May 23rd. Students **who still have outstanding obligations will not receive their tickets until these obligations have been satisfied.**
8. Parking at graduation—Have your family arrive on time. If you have a relative who is disabled or does not walk well, please submit a written request to Mr. Levy by Thursday, May 8, 2008 for a special parking permit. Parking will be provided for families with these special needs.