June 2019

Dear Senior Parents/Guardians:

In just a few short weeks, on Saturday, June 29th, at 1:00 p.m., we will be together at Dutchess Stadium in Fishkill, NY for the 94th Annual Arlington High School Commencement. In case of inclement weather, the commencement ceremony will be held on Sunday, June 30th, at 1:00 p.m. at Dutchess Stadium, rain or shine. The day will be a joyous occasion not only for the graduates but also for the families and school personnel whose support led to this rite of passage.

Parental cooperation and interest have always been significant factors in helping our school provide a successful experience for students. In these final days, it is especially important that your encouragement and support continue. I strongly suggest that you have a record of your child’s schedule of final exams on your calendar at home. This will help avoid the possibility of missing a final exam. Our common goal is to have your child complete the school year with the highest standards of prompt daily attendance, achievement, and conduct.

The commencement exercise is a formal ceremony held in honor of the graduates and their parents. It has been an Arlington tradition that our graduating seniors have consistently displayed maturity, good judgment and respect for their parents and our school personnel who contributed to their success. With this in mind, some rules and regulations dictated by courtesy and common sense appear below to establish a positive and appropriate atmosphere for graduation.

**PROPER STUDENT GRADUATE DRESS FOR COMMENCEMENT**

- shoes and socks, dress sandals, flats
- slacks, dresses, skirts
- blouses, collared shirts

- NO clogs, flip-flops, spiked heels or sneakers
- NO jeans or shorts
- NO tee shirts

Failure to dress in a manner befitting the occasion will result in returning home to dress properly or exclusion from the exercise. Further, any person appearing for commencement with evidence of items (*i.e.*, beach balls, noise makers, etc.) that could be used for disrupting the ceremony may be excluded from the exercise.
AUDIENCE SEATING PROCEDURES

Each graduating senior will be allotted 6 tickets. These tickets will be distributed in the Senior House (West) office beginning June 10th and must be signed for by the graduate. Caps and gowns will be handed out on June 11th in the lobby outside gyms 1 & 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and must be picked up by the graduate.

**Student photo ID is required to pick up the cap and gown and graduation tickets.** If you require more than 6 tickets to the ceremony, please check with other graduates who may not be using their full allotment of tickets. The gates to Dutchess Stadium will be opened at 12:00 p.m. for students and 12:15 p.m. for families and seating will be on a first-come first-served basis. Parking is limited so please carpool with friends and family. Those who wish to carpool to graduation may use the high school parking lot as a meeting place. You will need a ticket to be admitted to Dutchess Stadium, and all seats are unreserved. Please check the high school site at arlingtonschools.org and the class Twitter page (@AHShouseof2019) the day of graduation for updates and in case of inclement weather.

Seniors are expected to report to Dutchess Stadium before 12:00 p.m. The staging area for the processional will be the left and right field stadium bleachers. Chaperones will be there to assist the seniors.

LifeTouch will be present to photograph graduates as they receive their diplomas. We urge you to consider using LifeTouch as your source for graduation pictures. By using LifeTouch, you will avoid the commotion and aggravation associated with finding a position among hundreds of other photographers. LifeTouch will contact you after graduation with regard to the options available to you.

Please visit [https://events.lifetouch.com/arlingtonhslagrangevilleny](https://events.lifetouch.com/arlingtonhslagrangevilleny) for more information. If you would like a memento, the PTSA will have a vendor on site selling flowers as well as t-shirts with all of the graduates’ names. Please visit [https://www.thecommencementgroup.com/arlingtonhs/](https://www.thecommencementgroup.com/arlingtonhs/) for more information.

Although commencement is a time for celebration, we must collectively assume a role of protection and concern in addressing the increasing number of graduation and end-of-year parties. I am sure that you would agree that drinking, drugs and driving are high-risk combinations. Please join me in continuing to emphasize to your senior the importance of sound decision making during the celebratory days leading up to and following Graduation 2019.

Congratulations on your child’s upcoming graduation! Please accept the deep appreciation of the entire staff for your cooperation, support and assistance over the years.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Fanuele, EdD
Executive Principal

*Our mission is to empower all students to be self-directed, lifelong learners, who willingly contribute to their community and lead passionate, purposeful lives.*