

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

An International Baccalaureate World School

4301 East-West Highway ~ Bethesda, Maryland 20814

240.740.0407



Changes made 5/22/21 are highlighted.

Greetings B-CC Seniors and Families,

This packet provides important information on graduation, graduation rehearsal, and student expectations at school and all school sponsored events leading to graduation. Please contact Mr. Sam Levine Samuel_G_Levine@mcpsmd.org or Mrs. Linda Schaus Linda_M_Schaus@mcpsmd.org with any questions regarding graduation. Below we have summarized important dates and events.

Summary of Dates & Deadlines

April 29	Parent Webinar at 7:00 PM to discuss Graduation plans. Recording of the meeting is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5BGp9_5FIE
April 30	The class of 2021 seniors are no longer required to have a certain number of SSL hours to graduate, however if you want credit for your hours, please turn in the paperwork by this date.
May 5, 19, and 26	Distribution of senior yard signs from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Near the cafeteria doors (enter bus loop from East-West Highway)
May 7	Last day to pay for AP exams. Unpaid exams are at risk of cancellation after May 7
May 19	Senior Carnival from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the BCC front lawn.
May 28	Last school day for Seniors. Be sure all books and supplies are returned to the school to avoid obligations. School obligations can delay release of the final transcript.
June 1	Seniors MUST complete the Senior Survey in Naviance.
June 2	9:00 am - Drop off of any MCPS materials such as textbooks, uniforms, chrome books, and instruments. Ensure outstanding financial obligations have been paid. Pick up cap & gown (if ordered), yearbook (if ordered), graduation tickets, and ceremony programs. 10:00 am - In-Person Graduation Rehearsal. Seniors should assemble in the stadium bleachers.
June 3	If you have not already ordered your cap & gown, then please bring \$8 cash to BCC on June 3rd from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm to purchase the items directly from the vendor. Sizes will be limited. Seniors who cannot attend graduation rehearsal should return materials and pick-up graduation items between 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm.
June 4	Graduation at the BCC Stadium at 9:00 AM. Rain date #1: June 4 at 6:00 PM Rain date #2: June 5 at 9:00 am

B-CC 2021 Graduation

Location

BCC Stadium

Date & Time

Graduation is **Friday, June 4, 2021, at 9:00 am**. Students should arrive at BCC **no later than 8:00 am** and line up on the front lawn (East-West Hwy doors). The gates will open to the public at **8:00 am**. Guest seating will be located on the stadium field and in the bleachers. **Based on Montgomery County and MCPS guidelines, social distancing is not required in the bleachers and the area will be filled to capacity. Field seats will be chairs separated by 3 feet. Seating is on a first come-first serve basis. Masks are not required for guests or graduates attending the ceremony.** The ceremony is expected to end by **10:45 am**. Guests will be admitted by ticket only at the stadium gate closest to the parking garage. The first rain date is June 4th at 6:00 pm and the second rain date is June 5th at 9:00 am.

Tickets

Admission to graduation is by ticket only. Each graduating senior will be allowed **four** guests. We cannot take requests for additional tickets. The **four tickets** to the graduation ceremony will be distributed with caps & gowns on June 2nd. Graduating seniors do not need a ticket however, guests of all ages, including infants, are required to have a ticket. No student will receive tickets until all financial obligations are cleared.

Live Streaming of Graduation

Although our graduation ceremony is live at our stadium, we know that many of you may wish to view the ceremony from the comfort of your home or work computer. To do so, you need to follow a few basic steps to open an account with NFHS.

To sign up for your free MCPS high school graduation account, please follow these steps.

1. Go to https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/users/sign_up#
2. Type in your name, email address, and a password to create your FREE NFHS Network account.
3. On June 4 search for Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, Bethesda, MD in the search bar, or head to <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bcchs/> for a direct link to the NFHS website.
4. Watch for free, sign in and enjoy the show.

Parking

There is no parking for graduates or guests at BCC. Please make plans accordingly. Guests and seniors can be dropped off by entering the bus loop from East-West Highway. The BCC PTSA has arranged for parking within walking distance of BCC High School. **Information has been added to the end of this packet.**

Student Attire

Graduation is a serious affair, and students need to dress appropriately. Parents are requested to take an active role in ensuring that their child is appropriately dressed for the occasion. Graduates should wear long dress pants with a white collared shirt, dress, or blouse with a skirt. To protect the turf on the field, please wear soft soled dress shoes or athletic shoes. No heels are allowed. Jewelry should not be worn on the outside of an academic robe. Chewing gum, purses, signs, beach balls, etc., are not permitted. **Sunglasses will be permitted this year because of the outdoor ceremony.** No decorations or alterations are to be made to graduation caps and/or gowns.

Parental Expectations

Courteous behavior of all guests is necessary for a dignified graduation ceremony. A graduation ceremony is a formal occasion. Loud, boisterous behavior detracts from the ceremony and can prohibit the audience from hearing the names of all graduates as they are announced. Therefore, we are requesting that both graduates and guests refrain from excessive applause or cheering until all names have been read.

There is guest seating on the field. To protect the turf on the field, please wear soft soled dress shoes or athletic shoes. No heels are allowed.

Guests can greet the graduates outside of the stadium immediately following the ceremony.

There is a **handicapped entrance** at the stadium. There are two sections at the top of the bleachers reserved for wheelchairs. Wheelchairs are also allowed on the field. There is a gently sloping ramp that allows those in wheelchairs to reach the field. On the field, those in a wheelchair can sit with family in chairs. Guests can be dropped off near the stadium to reduce the amount of walking. There is no reserved seating for guests with reduced mobility. We recommend you come early to find a seat near the top of the stadium.

Graduation Photos

A professional photographer will take a picture of each graduate receiving his/her diploma. Information about how to order pictures is on a flyer at the end of this document.

Interpreting Services at Graduation Exercise for Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing

Individuals who need sign language interpreters or cued speech transliterators can request services on-line at www.educationalinterpreters.com/MCPS. Please give a month's notice to enable staff to provide the accommodation requested. Contact the Office of Interpreting Services at 240-740-1800 if you have any problems filling out the on-line request.

Graduation Rehearsal & Distribution of Cap & Gown

Wednesday, June 2 at 9:00 am

Financial obligations must be cleared with the financial office before students can receive caps and gowns and graduation tickets. Seniors should bring to school instructional material and textbooks, chrome books, uniforms, calculators, and MiFi devices to tables set up outside of the small gym.

Caps, gowns, tassels, hoods, and yearbooks will be distributed from the small gym, to those that have ordered. Each graduate will also receive four tickets for graduation and two graduation ceremony programs. If you have not yet ordered a cap & gown, please bring \$8 cash to BCC on June 3, 2021 from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm to purchase the items directly from the vendor.

Wednesday, June 2 at 10:00 am

Graduation rehearsal will be **In-Person** following the distribution of cap & gowns. Seniors should assemble in the stadium bleachers by 10:00 am. Rehearsal should take about an hour.

Academic and Behavioral Expectation for Seniors

Although seniors are bursting with anticipation about the next chapter in their lives after graduation, they must work hard to maintain focus and engagement with their coursework until the end. Seniors are expected to attend their classes each day on time and to complete their assignments. Teachers ask families for support in communicating these expectations to students. College admissions as well as other post-secondary options are highly competitive, with many students on the waitlist for highly coveted spots. Final transcripts that show a marked decline in performance, as well as any indication that students were involved in a serious disciplinary infraction after they submitted their college application could result in a review of the college admissions decision.

Loss of credit in a class or receiving a failing grade are situations that can cause a student not to graduate with their class. We realize that staying engaged in high school can be increasingly challenging as the semester nears the end, but we ask for your support to encourage your Senior to maintain a good reputation and have a successful conclusion to their high school career.

Please note: Students who are in possession of an illegal substance such as drugs or alcohol at a school-sponsored activity, or under the influence of an illegal substance or who distribute an illegal substance will

be subject to the school disciplinary consequences including possible exclusion from graduation activities on a case-by-case basis, in alignment with the Code of Conduct.

We hope you will support our efforts to provide your children with safe and enjoyable activities for the remainder of their senior year. We look forward to exciting and memorable times as this important phase of your child's school life draws to a close.

Obligations

Seniors must clear all financial obligations before picking up a cap and gown or attending graduation.

There could be unpaid obligations for things like textbooks, calculators, uniforms, exam fees, or old unpaid course fees. Also, check with the media center for any additional obligations. Seniors should ensure that all items are returned by the last day of classes for seniors, May 28th, to avoid an obligation. **No check payments for seniors will be accepted after May 1.**

To check for outstanding financial obligations contact [Audrey J Liebeskind@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Audrey.J.Liebeskind@mcpsmd.org) or go to this website: <https://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/login.aspx?ReturnURL=Payment.aspx> Again, check the media center for any obligations. Beginning May 1st, obligations may only be paid online at the address above or with cash or a money order but not by check. Payments may be brought to the Financial Office before school, after school, or during lunch. It is highly advantageous to pay obligations well before the June 2nd as this is traditionally the biggest obstacle students have during the final clearance.

Senior Survey on Naviance

Seniors MUST complete the senior survey in Naviance. To access the survey, please login to Naviance, click on the about me section at the top of the page, click on My Surveys, click on Surveys not Started and then select the 2020-2021 B-CC HS Senior Survey. This survey will tell us the college you will be attending in the Fall. The transcripts will be sent to colleges at the beginning of July through Naviance. If you have any questions, please email Ms. Kate Heald or Mrs. Maureen Bonner. The deadline for submitting this survey is **June 1, 2021**. Again, this is a requirement for graduation.

Graduation Day Is Coming

Your picture date is on June 4th, 2021

Your Access Code is

BCCGRAD21

Graduation 2021 is coming and Victor O'Neill Studios will be there to photograph diploma presentation pictures on your special day. Preregister for notifications regarding your graduation photos. Photos will be available approximately one week after your event.

Text **BCCGRAD21** to **90738**, visit galleries.photoday.io or download the App and enter the access code to get started.



Photos by Victor O'Neill Studios



For questions please email us:
graduation@vosphoto.com

Parking Options for the BCC High School Graduation

There is no parking for Seniors or their guests at BCC High School for the Graduation Ceremony. Please do not park on the surrounding East Bethesda streets. They are permitted parking only. It is disruptive to residents and Montgomery County Police do ticket violators.

The BCC PTSA has secured parking at several garages and lots to accommodate BCC Seniors and their guests on the morning of graduation. A link to a map of these parking options is below.

Parking Map: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1X2lePoOGBLFSrXxjenN4uQz6JNY6zc2y/view?usp=sharing>

Senior Parking

Seniors who are driving themselves can use the Bethesda Towers Parking Garage on East-West Highway, directly across from BCC High School. The cost to park before 9:00 am is \$8 and must be paid with credit card. No cash is accepted.

Family & Friends Parking

Families and friends have 3 parking options listed below. There will be blue and gold balloons tied to signs by each facility.

- The Impark Parking garage by the Hilton Garden Inn. You can enter on Waverly Street or Montgomery Avenue. Credit cards are only accepted.
- The Laz Parking lot next to the Round House Theatre. Make a right turn from East-West Highway at Waverly Street. The cost is \$12 and a good option if you plan to walk into Bethesda after the ceremony.
- Starting at 8:00 am, parking in the Bethesda Towers lot on East-West Highway, across from BCC is an option. We are asking that families allow the Seniors to park at this location first. The cost to park before 9:00 am is \$8 and must be paid with credit card.

Disabled Parking

There is no parking at BCC but you can drop off guests by entering the main parking lot from East-West Highway and using the far right lane that passes the front entrance of the school. The PTSA has secured a small number of spaces listed below for guests with disabilities. Please contact the PTSA President, Lyric Winik at lyricwinik@mac.com for a space assignment and parking pass for these parking options.

- Our Lady of Lourdes surface parking lot. You may only enter **after** 8:10 am.
- 4405 East-West Highway. Guests can park at this location before 8:00 am.

The BCC PTSA would like to thank Mr. David Long of Our Lady of Lourdes School and Mr. John Mier of Washington Graphic Services for their help with securing disabled parking.