



Class of 2026 - Graduation Information

Important Dates, Commencement Information & Practice Procedures

Commencement May 29, 2026, 6PM

Thank you for taking the time to read through this class of 2026 information sheet. It contains important information and will help you plan for Commencement. Please check the ALHS website, monthly newsletters, and social media for any date changes & updates.

Take care,
Michael J. May, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8/22/2025 | Picture Day (senior pictures for the yearbook will be taken this day) |
| 8/29/2025 | Senior Class Meeting (Student Only 8:30am-10am) |
| 10/14/2025 | Josten's Senior Class Meeting for Cap and Gown (Student Only) |
| 10/24/2025 | Josten's on site for Cap and Gown orders (during lunch periods) |
| 10/21/2025 | Picture Retake Day (additional day to have senior pictures taken for the yearbook) |
| 1/30/2026 | Meeting for Common Scholarship application (during 3rd period) |
| 2/1/2026 | Common Scholarship Application Opens |
| 3/20/2026 | Senior Speaker Contest speeches due to Mr. Slabodnick |
| 3/27/2026 | Senior Speaker Contest Auditions |
| 5/1/2026 | Military Signing Day |
| 5/14/2026 | Recognition of Excellence Banquet (by invitation only) |
| 5/8/2026 | Cap and Gown delivery (during lunch periods) |
| 5/16/2026 | Prom |
| 5/20/2026 | Graduation March - wear/bring your graduation gown only |
| 5/21/2026 | Scholarship Night (by invitation only) |
| 5/22/2026 | Senior Field Day |
| 5/27/2026 | Baccalaureate (St. Joseph Church 6pm) |
| 5/27, 5/28/2026 | Senior Final Exams |
| 5/28/2026 | Seniors Last Day of School |
| TBD | Row Captain Practice |
| 5/29/2026 | Senior Breakfast/Commencement Practice (8am-12pm)(Mandatory) |
| 5/29/2026 | Commencement (6pm)(Graduates be in Aux. Gym at 5pm to line up.) |

Click the link [here](#) to view the 2025-26 ALCS calendar . You can subscribe to the high school calendar at the bottom right of the calendar (click the +).

2026 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOR GRADUATION

Seniors: Click the link [here](#) and fill out the Class of 2026 Request for Information for Graduation. **You must verify this information by October 3, 2025 for your diploma.** (you will need to use your @alstudent email address). The link can also be found in google classroom and a QR code is



available in the main office. *If you are not walking for commencement, please note that when filling out the form. This is not a final decision; you can change your mind about participating at any time.*

SCHEDULE FOR MANDATORY PRACTICE & COMMENCEMENT

FRIDAY, May 29, 2026

8:00AM Seniors arrive and meet at the stadium.
Breakfast will be provided
Graduation Practice
Senior Check Out

12:00PM - 1:30PM Row Captain Practice (lunch provided for Row Captains)

5:00PM Graduates are to meet in the ALHS auxiliary gym. Find your row and check in with your row captain. Caps and gowns should be on before entering the stadium or auxiliary gym.

5:15PM Stadium gates will open for spectators

6:00PM Commencement begins promptly at 6:00PM at Avon Lake Memorial Field.

COMMENCEMENT TICKETS

If you are in need of a handicap or wheelchair ticket, seniors should email Mrs. Gannon at amy.gannon@alcsoh.org to request a ticket. Please include the type of ticket needed (handicap or wheelchair) and the name of the person needing the ticket. Seating for wheelchair and handicapped is assigned and does fill up so we cannot guarantee there will be seating available day of. **The last day to request Handicap or Wheelchair tickets is May 15th.** There will not be tickets for General Admission seating.

ALUMNI

Click the link [here](#) to submit alumni information for your family. **May 1st is the Last day to submit Alumni information forms.**

CAP & GOWN

To order your cap & gown, go to www.jostens.com or you may email rodd.torbert@jostens.com. Cap & Gowns must be paid for before picking up. **Cap & Gown pick up day during lunch periods on May 8, 2026.**

BACCALAUREATE

A time-honored tradition that accompanies commencement is a ceremony called "Baccalaureate." In Avon Lake, this is a brief ecumenical prayer service on the evening before graduation that commends our young adults to God as they leave the safe comfort of their home and community and move toward the challenges they have chosen.



For ALHS, the Baccalaureate is held in St. Joseph Church, and all are welcome and encouraged to attend as we pray for the graduates to keep the values with which they have been raised and to have the strength of character to change the world. The service includes participation by the Avon Lake Choral Music program and offers opportunities for several graduates who would like to read selections chosen for this occasion.

If you have questions or wish to volunteer, you are welcome to contact Lorene Coughlin at music@stjosephavonlake.org.

Baccalaureate will be May 27, 2026 at St. Joseph Church in Avon Lake at 6PM. Students should wear zipped gowns and cords without caps.

CORDS

Seniors that earn cords can pick them up in the main office at the end of field day on May 22nd. These cords are approved prior to graduation.

Students who would like to wear cords earned outside of school should contact Mr. May via email for consideration. Please include the name of the outside organization, mission, and color(s) of cord(s).

Conference, county and state medals earned associated with SWC, Lorain County and OHSA may be worn.

Sashes or other items are not permitted.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

- **Students are required to attend the mandatory rehearsal May 29th at 8am-12pm to be eligible to participate in the Commencement Ceremony**
- Any inappropriate or disruptive behavior may result in removal from the practice and exclusion from participation in Commencement. All school rules and regulations are in effect throughout the entire day.
- Students whose name is not on the final graduation list will NOT be permitted to participate in commencement.
- In the event weather conditions demand the commencement ceremony be moved, the rain date(s) are May 30th and 31st (Time TBD based on weather). An announcement will be made by 12PM on Friday May 29th via School Messenger and social media.
- Students must adhere to the school dress code policy.
- Valuables cannot be secured and should not be brought to the ceremony.
- Students may decorate their caps. Any decorations must be school appropriate.
- Live stream will be available for commencement. This will be sent out prior to the event.
- Diplomas will be handed to students at the conclusion of the ceremony.
- If you do not walk in commencement, Diplomas will be available on **Monday June 1st** in the main office starting at 7:30am. The school is closed during the weekend.



FEES

All school fees and outstanding lunch balances need to be paid in full in order to purchase a Prom ticket or to walk for Graduation. Senior payment plans must be fulfilled by May 8, 2026. If there is a charge for a missing textbook, calculator, charger or Chromebook and your student has the missing item, please see Mrs. Hout with the item and the fee will be removed. Building administration does not hold the ability to waive fees.

Please contact Laura Hout (laura.hout@alcsch.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

Seniors must indicate on Naviance where to send their transcript and complete the future plans survey. Please contact your guidance counselor with any questions. Transcripts are sent in June and sometimes colleges/universities do not accept them in their electronic portal. Please check with your college admissions officer to see if they have accepted your transcripts.

MILITARY

Seniors who are enlisting in the Military please contact Mr. Slabodnick. adam.slabodnick@alcsch.org
Military Signing Date: May 1, 2026

Senior Speaker Contest

The deadline to apply is March 20, 2026 and auditions will take place March 27, 2026 during the school day. Please see Mr. Slabodnick with any questions adam.slabodnick@alcsch.org.

SENIOR YEARBOOK PHOTOS

Email your baby pictures for the yearbook to Mrs. Rudkin Tori.Rudkin@alcsch.org. Senior photos for the yearbook will be taken by Ripcho on August 22nd at ALHS during the school day. If you miss the August date, pictures will be taken again on October 21st during picture retake day. You may also contact Ripcho to make arrangements to have your picture taken at their studio.

SENIOR SIGNS

Avon Lake PTA will be selling Senior Signs again this year.

Sales will begin on January 1st and end March 31st.

Each sign will be \$15 and will be available for pick-up around mid-April.

Each sign is 18" x 24", double-sided, and comes with a metal stake.

If you have any questions or need more information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Laura Butler at: Lauraloubutler6@gmail.com or 734-812-2243

INTERESTED IN TRANSFERRING YOUR GOOGLE FILES ONCE YOU GRADUATE

Click [here](#) for instructions