



Princeton High School

Office of the Principal, Cecilia X. Birge

151 Moore Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 t 609.806.4280 ext. 3555

May 16, 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian of Our 2026 Graduating Seniors,

The PHS faculty, staff, and administrative team are pleased to celebrate the Class of 2026. Our Commencement Ceremony will be held at **5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2026**, at Princeton High School. For the most current graduation information, please visit the PHS website. This letter provides important information regarding graduation logistics and related details.

Start Time for Graduation Ceremony

We will monitor the weather forecast closely on June 18th and **may adjust the start time to as early as 3 pm or as late as 6:30 pm** to hold the ceremony on the Front Lawn in front of the Tower. If there is steady rain, the ceremony will move to the New Gym at 5:30 pm. Any updates or changes regarding the start time will be announced by 12:30 pm on graduation day and posted on our website.

We know changing the graduation start time can create challenges on an already busy day. Many families juggle between work commitments, appointments, and other plans. Please know that our top priority is to honor the tradition of graduating our seniors on the Front Lawn - all our seniors want this badly! Please plan accordingly. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

Seating Arrangement for Front Lawn Ceremony

We will have open seating if the graduation is held outside. Immediate family members may sit in any of the white folding chairs on the Front Lawn. Additional family members and guests may sit on the bleachers located on the outer perimeter of the lawn.

Seating Arrangement for an Indoor Ceremony

A PLACE FOR LEARNING

The Princeton Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

In the case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be relocated to the New Gymnasium. The two (only two) blue wristbands will be the “tickets” for gymnasium seating. Additional seatings will be available in the auditorium (“PAC”) and the Cafeteria.

Regardless of the ceremony location, a large-screen simulcast will be available in both the PAC and the cafeteria. Please use these indoor spaces if the day is extremely hot. You can also watch from home via our PPS Live YouTube channel - the link will be posted on our website.

Graduation Parking

Carpooling is strongly encouraged, as parking will be very limited. Graduation parking will be available in the PHS lots by Houghton and the PAC, Westminster lot as well as on neighboring streets. We ask that you please be respectful of our neighbors by parking carefully and ensuring that driveways and rights-of-way remain clear. If you require special accommodations, please contact the PHS Main Office at 609.806.4280, ext. 3515 for assistance.

Graduation Announcement Card and Program

A QR code will be available on the Front Lawn for families to scan and access the Graduation Program online using their cell phones. For those who would like a keepsake, a limited number of announcement cards and graduation programs will be available in the Main Office after the ceremony.

Device Collection, Cap and Gown & Other Logistics

PPS Technology Department will collect all seniors’ devices on **June 16th and June 17th** during the PE period. We will send reminders before then as well.

Your child’s purchased cap and gown will be distributed on June 12th, 15th and 16th. They will receive specific information closer to the pickup dates. Graduates will pick up their diplomas from the picnic table side of the building immediately following the graduation ceremony.

Senior Lunch sponsored by PHS PTO is scheduled for 11.10am on Wednesday, June 17th in the Old Gym.

There will be two mandatory graduation rehearsals, both starting in the Old Gym.

Attendance at both rehearsals is required; failure to attend either will prevent you from walking and receiving your diploma. Here are the details:

- First rehearsal: Wednesday at 12.10 pm, June 17th, immediately after Senior Lunch.
- Second rehearsal: Thursday at 9am, June 18th.

Cigars, Vapes & Other Substance

Finally, we ask all graduates to celebrate in a safe and respectful manner. Please note that smoking, vaping, and all tobacco use are prohibited by law on school grounds, including after the ceremony. We also ask students to be mindful that faculty, students, family members, and guests may have health conditions that make exposure to smoke or vapor harmful. Any student found smoking/vaping or using any kind of substance on campus will be asked to leave campus.

We look forward to celebrating the Princeton High School Class of 2026!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cecilia Berge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PHS Principal