



MESA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

6070 Mesa Ridge Parkway • Colorado Springs 80911

(719)391-3600 • FAX (719)390-9697

Our mission is to provide a safe, supportive, academically rich environment utilizing best practices to develop all students to be productive citizens and preparing lifelong learners for post-secondary readiness and success in a global society.

March 11, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians class of 2026,

It is with great pride that we welcome you to the final chapter of your student's high school journey. On behalf of the Mesa Ridge High School staff, I want to offer my sincere congratulations to you and your senior on achieving this incredible milestone.

The "Senior Season" is a unique time, filled with anticipation for the future and nostalgia for how far they have come. We understand how important this year is for your family, and we look forward to sharing in the traditions that make graduating from Mesa Ridge so special.

As we enter this busy and exciting season, we want to ensure you feel prepared and informed. This packet contains all the necessary deadlines and contact information you will need. Additionally, please review the section on the updated [Graduation Regalia Request form here](#), which reflects the information shared at the Senior Meeting on March 11th, the ROAR and Parent Square message to the senior class and guardians.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Important Dates

April 29 9:00-11:00 am	Senior Brunch	Doubletree by Hilton 1775 E Cheyenne Boulevard
May 2 7:00-11:00 pm	Prom	Doubletree by Hilton 1775 E Cheyenne Boulevard
May 4 – 15	AP Exams	View the full exam schedule here .
May 7- 11	Senior Final Exams	Teachers will provide details in class.
May 12	Last Day for Seniors	Cafe Seniors will have breakfast, complete their <u>final checkout, attend the Farewell Assembly, & receive yearbooks.</u>
May 14 6:00 pm	Senior Awards	Auditorium Seniors receiving awards will be notified one week prior to the event.
May 15 8:00 am	Graduation Practice **Mandatory**	Auditorium All seniors must report for graduation practice.
May 18	Graduation Ceremony	Broadmoor World Arena 3185 Venetucci Boulevard 7:00 pm

We are so proud of our seniors and their accomplishments! With your assistance, we will enjoy events that will honor them and their achievements. Thank you for your support.

Joshua Trahan

Principal

– The Grizzly Way – Respect •
Integrity • Excellence

Senior Events | Class of 2026

Senior Brunch

April 29 | 9:00 – 11:00 am | Doubletree by Hilton

This senior-only event is a celebration of the Class of 2025! Ticket information coming soon.

Prom

May 2 | 7:00 – 11:00 pm | Double Tree Hotel

Prom is a formal event. Juniors and seniors may bring a date from another school with prior approval only. Guests must be of high school age and under the age of 21. Guest pass approval forms will be available in the Business Office between March 30 & April 24. Completed forms are due April 24. All attendees must adhere to the Code of Conduct. Mesa Ridge students are responsible for the behavior of their guests, and both will be required to leave if one violates the Code of Conduct.

Senior Awards (by invitation only)

May 14 | 6:00 pm | MRHS Auditorium

This is an invitation-only event. Seniors must report any scholarship offers to Ms. Young to qualify. Seniors will complete the Senior Awards Survey during Advisory. More information will be shared in Ms. Young's College and Career Newsletter.

Graduation Practice

May 15 | 8:00 am | MRHS Auditorium

Seniors will need to arrive by 7:45 am. It is Mandatory that all graduating seniors attend this practice. Students will practice lining up and having their names called for the graduation event that will take place at the Broadmoor World Arena.

Graduation Dress Rehearsal

May 18 | 4:45 pm | Broadmoor World Arena

Seniors only arrive at the World Arena for ceremony preparations at 4:45 pm. The doors open to the public at 6:00 pm.

Graduation Ceremony

May 18 | 7:00 pm | Broadmoor World Arena

The Mesa Ridge Commencement Ceremony is a *dignified* occasion to honor graduating seniors and their families for accomplishments during their high school years. In that spirit, we have established the following guidelines for students and guests. Please discuss these guidelines with your senior.

Graduate Dress

Commencement is a prestigious, public, community event celebrating each senior. Students are expected to wear attire appropriate to this *dress* event. Graduates should wear dresses, or dress slacks and dress shirts/blouses, with appropriate dress shoes. Jeans, athletic wear, sneakers, shorts, flip flops, and slippers are not allowed.

Ceremony Regalia

The graduation ceremony celebrates the accomplishments of our students during their high school years. Official Mesa Ridge regalia includes the robe, cap, and cords/stoles/pins awarded by the school. Students may not add to, embellish, decorate, or alter these items in any way, except as outlined in district policy. Items awarded from organizations other than Mesa Ridge may not be worn. Students may not display signs or flags.

Graduate Conduct

Participation in commencement is a school activity and therefore behavior expectations align with the school Code of Conduct. Students who behave inappropriately during the ceremony will be removed. Students who demonstrate inappropriate behavior during the last eight weeks prior to graduation may lose the privilege to participate in the graduation ceremony and other senior events.

Graduation Guest Conduct

Students are allowed unlimited guests at our graduation ceremonies. Please help us maintain the proper decorum for this event by not bringing noisemakers, air horns, balloons, silly string, or signs into the arena. We want every family to be able to hear their graduate's name announced and to be able to see them walk across the stage. Please see the handout from the arena (attached) with details about what is and is not allowed. Parents and guests may not come onto the arena floor to take pictures before, during, or after the ceremony. A commercial photographer will take a picture of each graduate, and order forms will be mailed to you. Graduates will be escorted to the mezzanine level after the ceremony where they will meet with family and friends. Parking at the World Arena is free.

Financial assistance for senior events and activities may be available for families in need. Please contact Brian Petzold (petzoldbrian@wsd3.org) for information.

Senior Events Class of 2025



Rules & Regulations for 2026 Commencement

- The Broadmoor World Arena Concession Stands will be open for service. No outside food and beverage.
- The following Items will not be permitted inside of The Broadmoor World Arena:
 - Helium Balloons ○ Beach Balls or Water Guns ○ Silly String or Confetti ○ Horns, Cow Bells, Sirens, or any other Noise Maker ○ WEAPONS (including items that resemble weapons) ○ Selfie Sticks ○ Large Signs, Posters or Pictures that obstruct the view of those around you ○ Recording Devices that will obstruct the view of those around you (i.e. Holding up an iPad/tablet, Tripods etc.)
 - Remote controlled recording devices (i.e. Drones)
- If you have a stroller or infant carrier/car seat, it must be checked at the Penrose Club Entrance. There is not room in the seating area for these items. Please hold small children on your laps.
- Guests are not permitted on the arena floor at any time unless participating in the graduation ceremonies. This includes taking photos.
- Please do not stand as it blocks the view of others.
- Guests may save no more than 2 seats. Ten minutes prior to the start of the ceremony, the open seats will become available for others. Disputes in regards to saving seats may result in ejection from The Broadmoor World Arena.
- K Row is for ADA seating + 1 companion only
- The Broadmoor World Arena's acceptable bag sizes are limited to 12"x5"x12". Tote, clutch, purse, wallet and plastic storage bag are all acceptable as long as they meet the size requirements. Small diaper bags and medical bags will be allowed.



TOTE
DO NOT EXCEED 12" X 6" X
12"



CLUTCH

4.5"



PURSE

3.5"



WALLET



PLASTIC STORAGE
BAG
1 Gallon