

Belle Chasse High School
8346 Hwy 23
Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Dear Parents or Guardians,

As graduation approaches, there are several dates and events that both students and parents need to be aware of. Please read the following to find out when and where your son or daughter needs to be and for which event. This information will also help if your son or daughter works and needs to request time off from work to attend all events.

AWARDS DAY

May 19, 9:00 A.M. in the school gymnasium. Seniors are required to attend. All graduating seniors must be in the school auditorium at 8:00 A.M. Girls will wear black dresses. Boys will wear black pants and white collared button up shirt (no pullover shirts). It is important that everyone adheres to the dress code. Cap and gowns are given out after awards day. Parents are invited. Parents will sit on the chairs behind the seniors on the floor of the gym.

GRADUATION PRACTICE

Graduation practice has always been mandatory. All students must attend graduation practice on Wednesday, May 20. To ensure that everyone gets there for the correct time, we are providing bus transportation for the practice and we insist that all students ride the bus to practice. We will have five buses in the front of the school and ready to leave at 8:30 A.M. Please be on time. Also, please remember that this is a school function and school uniforms are required. No baseball caps or food are allowed. Return time is approximately 1:00 P.M. Parents are asked not to attend graduation practice (thanks).

GRADUATION

Graduation is Wednesday, May 27, at Alario Center. Graduation will begin at 7:00 P.M. All seniors are to be at the Alario Center at 6:00 P.M. Please, seniors only, no guest before graduation.

Video cameras will not be allowed in the Alario Center. The reason is to keep the aisle clear for safety purposes. The Alario Center requests that we enforce this, and we will comply. We hope that you understand that we cannot accommodate everyone who would like to stand in the aisle to film. Anyone filming will be asked to leave. This includes filming from the seating areas as well. For your convenience, Loupe Photography will be allowed to film the entire graduation. Parents or students may purchase a copy of the video from them. Students will be given the order forms. You can contact them at (504) 835-7100. The school DOES NOT make any money from the video. This is strictly done as a courtesy to you, and we hope you return the courtesy to us by abiding by the rules on video cameras.

We do not encourage or allow the saving of seats. The doors will open at 6:00 P.M.

Dress-Boys will wear white collar shirts and dark tie under their cap and gown. Black or dark brown shoes are required (no athletic shoes). Girls are to wear dresses under their gowns (no pants) Boys needing to shave or without a tie will be asked to leave.

GIRLS: Please do not wear white shoes with your cap and gown. Please wear dark shoes.

There will be no facial piercings or any altering to your cap and gown. You will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony if you do not abide by these rules.

Any guests with air horns or noise makers will be asked to leave. This will be a dignified ceremony.

Starting time-It has always been our policy to begin graduation on time. We ask that you be seated by 7:00 P.M. This is because the center aisle belongs to the graduates at 7:00 P.M and not late arriving guests. Those arriving late will be directed to the side aisles. The only reason we would delay the start of graduation is in case of rain. If it does rain, we will delay the ceremony until the majority of people have arrived. Please note: All doors will be locked at 7:00pm when graduation begins. All late arriving guests will have to wait outside until the seniors are seated.

Balloons-The Alario Center does not allow helium balloons in the auditorium. All balloons will be confiscated by the security guards at the entrance of the auditorium. This is to keep the air conditioning vents from being blocked.

Cell phones- PLEASE leave your cell phones in the car.

Purses – there is no place for your purses. Please lock your purses in your cars.

Handicapped seating is available for handicapped individuals and one or two family members All guests cannot sit in that area and take up handicap seating needed for others.

ADMIT CARDS-Graduation is by admit card only! Each graduating senior will receive fifteen admit cards. These will be given out at graduation practice. There are no extra admit cards!!! We realize everyone has an individual problem with the number of admit cards, but no extras will be given out, NO EXCEPTIONS! Please do not call and ask, thanks for your understanding.

SCHOLARSHIPS-If a senior was offered any scholarships, please send a copy of the award letter to the counselors' office no later than May 15, 2009. The school usually does not receive notification from colleges. Therefore, if you want the scholarship recognized it is your responsibility to submit a copy of the scholarship award letter!!!

We hope that this information will answer some of the many questions both parents and students have about graduation and other events. Congratulations to both parents and students, and we look forward to making your graduation a successful one.

Any questions? Please contact Kelly DiMarco (kdimarco@ppsb.org)
Laurie Carlton (lcarterton@ppsb.org)