



Seniors of 2023,

The faculty and staff of Cartersville High School are excited for you, and we have planned down to the last detail to make your graduation one of the most special days of your life. Please hold on to this information and share it with your family so that you can make all the necessary preparations to be included on graduation day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Boy (sboy@cartersvilleschools.org), Jennilynn Hawn (jhawn@cartersvilleschools.org), or Emily Walker (ewalker@cartersvilleschools.org) via e-mail, as we are happy to help. We have included a table of important dates that should be useful as you go about taking care of the aforementioned responsibilities.

Congratulations and enjoy the remainder of your senior year!

Respectfully,

Shelley Tierce

Principal

Dear Cartersville High School Senior:

We are excited to soon be sharing a day with you and your family that will remain etched in your mind for many years to come—Graduation Day! The graduation ceremony is shared with many people and for it to be the dignified event you and your classmates deserve; we must ask that all participants conduct themselves in a manner which brings credit to their fellow students, their parents, and to Cartersville High School. To help ensure that we all have a common set of expectations, guidelines detailing events leading to and including the 2022 Commencement are outlined below:

**Cartersville High School
Class of 2023 Graduation
Friday, May 26, 2023
7:30 Weinman Stadium**

****Inclement Weather Plan Saturday, May 27th**

Commencement Information and Schedule of Activities

May 26 Graduates will report to the Storm Center or designated area by 6:30 pm for preparation. Graduates will report for attendance and last-minute details. Gates will open for family/friends at 6:30 pm.

Parking & Entry

Parking is available on the Cartersville High School campus in the student parking lot for all graduates. Please ask your parents to also park in the student parking lot, teacher parking lot behind the media center, or the church parking lot next to Scott's BBQ. Additional parking is open on public streets. Guests may enter through any of the gates leading into the stadium except the one at the practice field.

Handicapped parking is located off McEver Street at Discount Days, and those in need of assistance may park in this lot. We will have parking attendants help you get to the stadium and get seating. Please be thoughtful of others and limit the number of guests in this section.

SCHOOLGY WILL BE USED TO SEND MESSAGES AND UPDATES

All graduation information in this packet is located on the CHS website under the Graduation Central.

Conduct of Graduates and Guests

Seniors and their parents should read all information in this packet carefully. **Seniors are responsible for adhering to all directions and schedules that are provided.**

Commencement is an optional, dignified, solemn ceremony designed to honor all graduates in the Class of 2023, and no individual has the right to disrupt an event that honors so many people. As such, possession of any disruptive objects or engagement in any disruptive behavior may lead to immediate removal from the ceremony.

We ask the cooperation of all who attend commencement to help make it the dignified event it is meant to be. Please refrain from any inappropriate noises that might detract from the dignity of the ceremony. Since commencement is an official function of Cartersville High School, all Cartersville City School System and Cartersville High School policies, rules and regulations are in effect.

General Information

PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY IS OPTIONAL AND A PRIVILEGE. STUDENTS MUST MEET ALL EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE. IF YOU DO NOT PLAN TO BE AT GRADUATION, PLEASE LET US KNOW!

HOLDS: Seniors must meet all requirements for graduation before the diploma will be granted. All required courses must be successfully completed by May 23, 2023, or the student will not graduate with their class. All financial obligations, including payment for lost textbooks, parking fines, unreturned athletic gear, etc., must be cleared before final grades can be given and before the senior will be allowed to participate in commencement practice on Thursday, May 25th.

Please see Mrs. Burson in the front office to take care this.

Honor Graduates: must take at least two (2) AP courses and have a minimum academic weighted average of 3.70.

Honor Graduates with Distinction: must take at least four (4) AP courses and have a minimum academic weighted average of 3.70 **OR** complete three (3) AP courses and be enrolled as a fulltime student at a 4-year college and university with academic average of 3.70.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian will have the highest **academic average** of the **Honor Graduates with Distinction**.

Please see the student handbook page 13 if you have questions about honor graduates.

The CHS Counseling Office will be closed on Monday, May 22nd, and Tuesday, May 23, so that our counselors can verify graduation status for all seniors. Please do not go by the counseling office to check on your grades. You will be contacted by one of the counselors if there are any problems with your grades. Final report cards will be mailed.

<u>Senior Exams</u>	Thursday May 18	Periods 3 and 4
	Friday May 19	Periods 1 and 2

These are regular school days and exams will be given in the regularly scheduled 90-minute period.

Seniors are expected to be at school according to the Senior Exam Early Dismissal Request form that will be given out later.

Rehearsal and Ceremony Behavior

- All policies, rules and regulations of Cartersville City School System and Cartersville High School will be enforced.
- Students are expected to follow directions explained during rehearsal or they will be excluded from the ceremony.
- Possession of any disruptive objects may lead to immediate removal from the ceremony.
- Students must arrive on time, follow directions and cooperate fully during the rehearsal and the ceremony.
- Disruptive students will be removed and not allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Commencement Practices & Ceremony

ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMENCEMENT PRACTICES IS A **MANDATORY** PREREQUISITE FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY. **Students must be on time for practices and will not be admitted late.**

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 8:30 am – Noon

PRACTICE AT CARTERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL WEINMAN STADIUM

Seniors should park in regular assigned spaces. Seniors with no assigned space should park in the overflow or plaza lot. **THIS PRACTICE IS MANDATORY.**

Senior Group picture 8:30 am - Weinman Stadium on the home bleachers. Please wear your gowns (girls wear a white top, but it does not have to be your graduation dress) for the group class of 2022 picture.

Bring a change of clothes because after the picture, practice will continue until 12:00 PM

Baccalaureate at Sam Jones Church 6:00 PM

Friday, May 26, 2023, 8:30am – Noon

PRACTICE AT CHS WEINMAN STADIUM

Seniors should park in regularly assigned spaces. All graduates are to be in their assigned seat in the stadium. **THIS PRACTICE IS MANDATORY.** Enter the stadium at the pass gate between the weight room and Career Tech Building. **Don't bring valuables, purses, etc. with you. There will be no secure place to leave them.**

Friday, May 26, 2023 7:30 pm

CLASS OF 2023 COMMENCEMENT AT WEINMAN STADIUM

6:30 pm All graduates are to be in the Storm Center/designated area in graduation attire (proper dress, cap, gown, and tassel) for preparation. You will NOT be able to leave things in the Storm Center. You will carry things with you, so don't bring a bag or purse. No airpods, no cell phone use, and no going to the bathroom during the ceremony.

6:30 pm Gates open to the public

7:30 pm Commencement Ceremony

Diplomas

You will receive your diploma when you walk across the stage. If you are not present or do not receive your diploma you may pick it up in main office May 30th between 8:00 am – noon and 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm.

Caps and Gowns

To order cap/gown go to -link for info is on school webpage If you are not able to pick up on the delivery days, go by the office to collect your products. Each student should have a gown with a matching mortar board and tassel.

Senior Dress

Caps and gowns must be worn by graduating seniors. Please steam or iron your gown before Commencement. Please do not hem Commencement gowns.

Dress for Females:

Light color dress shoes with strap, small jewelry, and a white or cream dress. Note – dress should be slightly shorter than the graduation gown. Avoid wearing spike heels and **no flip flops will be permitted**. This is for your safety on the steps/stage.

Dress for Males:

Dress shoes and socks, dress pants, tie with a collared shirt. No string ties.

Only those in proper attire will be allowed in the processional. Flowers and large pieces of jewelry are not appropriate with Commencement gowns.

DO NOT under any circumstances place any numbers, letters, images, or items of any kind on the top of the mortarboard (cap) for decoration. Your tassel IS the decoration.

Mortarboards (caps) are to be placed on the top of the head so that the mortarboard is flat on top. Bobby pins are suggested to hold the hat in place. **Tassels are to be placed on the LEFT side of the mortarboard during the ceremony.**

Honor Cords

Honor cords/stoles/medallions may be worn as specified for the following. **These are the only regalia that is allowed.**

Honor Graduate
National Honor Society
Beta Club
Mu Alpha Theta
Etowah All Stars
Spanish Honor Society
Gate Key Scholar
Latin Honor Society
International Thespian Society

Commencement Photos and Guests

To maintain the dignity of the ceremony, **guests must remain in their seats throughout the Commencement ceremony.** Only hand-held cameras that do not block the view of other guests may be used and guests may not walk into the aisles to take photographs. Noise makers such as air horns are also prohibited. Please tell your guests that every graduate deserves the right to hear their name called.

Class of 2023 Commencement

Important Dates

Day	Dates	EVENT
Thursday	May 18	Senior Final Exams - 3rd and 4th
Friday	May 19	Senior Final Exams - 1st and 2nd
Monday	May 22	All financial obligations, including all lost books, cafeteria charges, media center fees, parking ticket fees, or extracurricular fees must be paid in order to graduate.
Tuesday	May 23	Tentative Graduates will visit primary, elementary, and middle schools for the “Senior Walk”. 9:00 am – 10:30 am. More Details later.
Wednesday	May 24	
Thursday	May 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory Graduation dress rehearsal and Senior Group picture at 8:30 am - Weinman Stadium on the home bleachers-be in your gown and bring cap—see previous information for specific attire • Practice after picture until noon. • • Baccalaureate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:00pm Sam Jones- more info to come
Friday AM	May 26	Mandatory Graduation dress rehearsal from 8:30 am – NOON in Weinman Stadium.
Friday PM	May 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the Storm Center/Designated area at 6:30 pm. • Graduation Commencement at 7:30 pm in Weinman Stadium.
Saturday	May 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rain plan for graduation is this day. Do not make plans for this day in case rain delays graduation until the next day.