



Seniors of 2025,

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 (last page!) 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 2025 Commencement are outlined below:

**Cartersville High School
Class of 2025 Graduation
Friday, May 23, 2025
7:30 Weinman Stadium**

****Inclement Weather Plan Saturday, May 24th****

Commencement Information and Schedule of Activities

May 23 Graduates will report to the **CHS Auditorium** 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.

Handicapped parking is located off McEver Street at Discount Days. Those needing assistance may also 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. No strollers will be allowed into the stands, there will a stroller parking spot on the track.*

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 2025, 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. This includes a clear bag policy, medical bags and strollers are subject to a search. *No strollers will be allowed into the stands, there will stroller parking on the track.*

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 16, 2025, 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 22nd.

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

Honor Graduates: must successfully complete at least two (2) AP courses* and have a minimum cumulative weighted average of 3.70 and a minimum academic weighted average of 3.30.

Honor Graduates with Distinction: must successfully complete at least four (4) AP courses* and have a minimum cumulative weighted average of 3.70 and a minimum academic weighted average of 3.30.

*A student's full-time enrollment (12 credit hours per semester) in dual enrollment courses at a state-accredited postsecondary institution for one school year will be considered equivalent to one (1) AP course.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian will have the highest cumulative weighted grade point average of the **Honor Graduates with Distinction**.

Please see the student handbook pages 13-14 if you have questions about honor graduates.

The CHS Counseling Office will be closed on Monday, May 19, and Tuesday, May 20, 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 15	Periods 3 and 4
	Friday May 16	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 22, 2025, 8:00 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 8:00 am – Meet in 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 2025 picture.

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

Baccalaureate at Sam Jones Church 6:00 PM

Friday, May 23, 2025, 8:30am – Noon

FACULTY PRACTICE 8:00 AM

PRACTICE AT CHS WEINMAN STADIUM

Seniors should park in regularly assigned spaces. All graduates are to be in their assigned seat in the **auditorium**. **THIS PRACTICE IS MANDATORY. Don't bring valuables, purses, etc. with you. There will be no secure place to leave them.**

Friday, May 23, 2025 7:30 pm

CLASS OF 2025 COMMENCEMENT AT WEINMAN STADIUM

6:30 pm All graduates are to be in the **AUDITORIUM** in graduation attire (proper dress, cap, gown, and tassel) for preparation. You will NOT be able to leave things in the Auditorium. You will carry your things with you, so don't bring a bag or purse. No airpods, no cell phone use, no sunglasses, 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 27th between 8:00 am – noon and 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm.

Caps and Gowns

To order your cap/gown, go to link 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. <https://highschool.herffjones.com/secom/school/GA/Cartersville%20High%20School/10000858000/5028/buildpackage/1>

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. This is a formal event, please dress accordingly.

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 and issued by the school. Non-school issued items may not be worn.**

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
HOSA
JROTC
Dual Enrollment

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 2025 Commencement

Important Dates

Day	Dates	EVENT
Thursday	May 15	Senior Final Exams - 3rd and 4th Period
Friday	May 16	Senior Final Exams - 1st and 2nd Period
Friday	May 16	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.
Monday	May 19	Tentative Graduates will visit primary, elementary, and middle schools for the “Senior Walk”. 9:00 am – 10:30 am. More Details later.
Tuesday	May 20	
Wednesday	May 21	
Thursday	May 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory Graduation rehearsal and Senior Group picture at 8:00 AM - Weinman Stadium on the home bleachers-be in your gown and bring cap— Girls were white underneath • Practice after picture until noon. • Baccalaureate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:00pm Sam Jones • Wear your cap and gown to this event
Friday AM	May 23	Faculty Practice 8:00 AM on field Mandatory Graduation rehearsal from 8:30 am – NOON in Auditorium.
Friday PM	May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the CHS AUDITORIUM area at 6:30 pm. • Graduation Commencement at 7:30 pm in Weinman Stadium.
Saturday	May 24	<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.