

GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS

- ◆ Students intending to participate in commencement **must attend** and take part in **rehearsal on Thursday, May 21, 2009. Seniors will meet in the PHS theatre at 8:30 a.m. All seniors MUST ride the bus to Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre.**
- ◆ Commencement is a school-related activity conducted at an outside location. Graduates are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct during all activities associated with Commencement. Graduates are expected to forego the possession and use of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol.
- ◆ Graduates are expected to dress appropriately. Caps and gowns should not be modified in any way.
- ◆ Graduates can best contribute to a memorable ceremony by following the directions of the Graduation Coordinators.

PARKING INSTRUCTIONS

- ◆ It is advisable for families and graduates to make themselves familiar with the parking configuration at Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre in order to reduce confusion on Commencement Day.

Thanks For Your Cooperation!
Best Wishes To The Class of 2009!



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GUIDELINES FOR A SUCCESSFUL PONDEROSA HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT 2009



Ponderosa Mission Statement

Preparing our students to be our future.

LEARN. LEAD. EXCEED.

GUIDELINES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Remember your tickets!

ADMISSION IS BY TICKET ONLY!

- ◆ Please remain seated during the entire ceremony until the last graduate has recessed.
- ◆ Recognition and appreciation are best expressed by applause only. Every family wants to hear their graduate's name clearly when it is read. Please refrain from bringing noise makers of any kind to the ceremony.
- ◆ Tobacco, drug, or alcohol related items are not allowed at the ceremony.

Commencement is a very meaningful event for a high school student. It is a time when faculty, students, family, and honored guests share in recognizing an important milestone. It is a dignified, respectful occasion accented by the joy of significant accomplishment and the "beginning" of the next step of one's life.

The information in this brochure is presented to help create a successful and memorable event.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT GRADUATION

1. When is rehearsal for Commencement?

Rehearsal will take place at Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre on Thursday, May 21, 2009. Seniors will meet in the PHS theatre at 8:30 a.m. All seniors **MUST** ride the bus to Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre. This will be the only rehearsal time.

Students who miss rehearsal may not participate in commencement.

2. When do students receive their caps and gowns?

On Thursday, May 21, 2009 at rehearsal. A BBQ will follow in the commons for all seniors to attend. ***All graduates must wear a cap and gown to participate in commencement.***

3. How many tickets will my family receive?

All families are guaranteed 10 tickets. A request form for additional tickets is enclosed in the senior packet. Please return the request form to the Athletic/Activities office by Monday, April 27, 2009. Any additional tickets available will be distributed in an equitable manner to those families who request them. Tickets will be distributed at senior checkout on Thursday, May 14.

4. What time will Commencement begin?

Doors will open at 7 a.m. and Commencement will begin promptly at 8 a.m.

5. How will graduates arrive at Coors Amphitheater?

We encourage all graduates to carpool with family or friends due to limited parking availability.

6. How long will the ceremony last?

Approximately 1 1/2 hours.

7. Will concessions be available?

Yes, water will be sold.

8. What should seniors wear under their cap and gown?

"Business Casual" is recommended. Graduates are reminded to wear comfortable dress shoes as they may be standing for a period of time on uneven surfaces. Blue jeans and flip flops are not appropriate.

9. May we take pictures during the ceremony?

Yes, you may take pictures from your seat. Guests will not be allowed in the graduate seating area at any time. *Remember, graduates will keep their caps and gowns, so many photo opportunities will be available after the ceremony.* Formal photos will be taken by **GradFoto**. Proofs of these photos will be mailed home to families 4-6 weeks after graduation.

10. Is there seating for the handicapped?

Yes, seating in the handicapped area is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please enter through the North Plaza where staff will be available to direct you.

11. Are seats reserved?

No, guests will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis.

12. Is there a rain plan?

No, the ceremony goes on rain, snow, or shine. Please plan accordingly.