

Dear Class of 2019,

Congratulations on making it to this point in your academic career. We are proud of you and encourage you to finish your journey strong. We would like to provide you some preliminary information this fall for your senior year.

**Graduation:** The ceremony is on Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Winthrop Coliseum (1162 Eden Terrace Rock Hill, SC 29733). Please arrive no later than 1:00 to line up. Please be aware of traffic and plan accordingly to arrive on time. A map and directions will be provided for you on a later date ([www.winthrop.edu](http://www.winthrop.edu)). We will send more specific information about graduation day in the Spring Senior Class of 2018 Letter.

**Graduation Practice:** Practice is on Thursday, June 6, 2019 from 2:00-4:00 PM in the gym. Please arrive no later than 1:45 PM. Be aware that we must begin at 2:00. Please make sure to make plans to attend the entire practice. Failure to do so will result in not walking at graduation. It is your responsibility to schedule any college functions and work schedules around final exams, graduation practice, and graduation itself. You do not have to wear your cap and gown to practice. If you are speaking at graduation, then you should bring a copy of your speech so you can practice it a couple of times. You will not receive your tickets until the end of practice so make arrangements beforehand.

**Attire:** Students are expected to dress appropriately and professionally since this is a dignified ceremony. Students at CATA are only permitted to wear CATA issued cords, medallions, and cap and gown. No graduation regalia may be altered in any way.

**Ladies:** Ladies will need to wear an appropriate dress that is no longer than their gown or dark slacks. There should be no collar showing with the gown. Flip-flops and tennis shoes are not appropriate; however, dressy sandals are appropriate.

**Gentlemen:** dark pants, a white shirt, black or dark tie or bowtie. No tennis shoes or flip-flops will be allowed.

If you have any questions about your attire, then please ask administration.

**Senior Cap and Gown Picture:** The above described dress code is what you are expected to wear at the senior cap and gown picture in April or May in the gym. This occurs during second block and you must be present and in appropriate attire to be included in the picture (be here by 10:00 am if you flex first period). The exact date of the picture will be put in the Spring Senior Letter.

**Senior Week is May 20 to 24:** We will be sending more information about Senior Week in the coming months.

**Senior Academic Signings:** Each academy will continue with the tradition of Seniors signing for their plans for college, military, or career. The Signings will be on May 20 and 21 and all grade levels will attend their Academy Signings. Signings will also include scholarship recognitions, Academy and Department Awards as warranted. Parents will be invited to attend. We will list a specific date and time for each academy in the Spring Senior letter.

**Graduation Speeches:** Each academy has one senior give a speech at graduation. A committee of the faculty and staff of Central Academy chooses the individuals for graduation speeches. Students may audition for consideration in May. Please pay attention for the audition date in the announcements.

**Past due fees:** Past due fees must be paid before students may participate in Prom or Graduation. Please make online past year technology payments through the Central Academy Website, and make all other payments at the school with the bookkeeper. Dr. Wall and other staff will be calling about past due fees in an attempt to settle all fees by the end of January.

**Tickets:** Tickets will be on sale beginning May 6– June 5 before/after school in the main office, and will be available to be purchased online: Each senior will receive five (5) free tickets with the opportunity to buy extra tickets at **\$10 each**. Students can pre-purchase as many tickets as they need (go to the CATA website, click on “Event Tickets” on the right tab starting May 6).

- Tickets will also be sold at the door for \$10 per ticket** before the graduation ceremony.
- Everyone (including children) must have a ticket to enter the arena.
- Students will not receive their tickets until the end of Graduation practice.
- Students owing fees will not receive tickets until fees are paid (see below).
- Please keep your receipt for the tickets in case there are any questions.
- Students can pay cash/check to pay for the tickets, or order online as shown above.

Graduating from high school is dependent upon earning the number and type of credits needed to earn a diploma. Participating in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, one that your family will truly value as they have spent a lot of time supporting you in your academic studies. Please take time to ensure that you are eligible to graduate by earning the credits needed. Please take time to ensure that you are able to participate in the graduation ceremony by making good choices for the remainder of your senior year and by making sure that you have taken care of all financial responsibilities. Specifically, students must pay all fees owed to the school in order to be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. This includes fees such as (but not limited to) cafeteria, media center, textbook, athletic, transcript, technology, property fees. Any unpaid fee owed to the school or school system must be paid by Wednesday, June 6 to be allowed to participate in a graduation ceremony. We are contacting parents and want to try to resolve fee issues as quickly as possible.

Ms. Vicki Merritt, Principal