

Graduation Ceremony
George Mason University Patriot Center
June 17, 2008
2:00 P.M.

To the Parents and Graduates:

Mandatory rehearsals will be held on **Friday, June 13, at 8:00 a.m.** and **Monday, June 16, at 8:00 a.m.** Graduates will meet in the Little Theatre, be given their seating assignments and practice for graduation. It is strongly recommended that arrangements be made so that every senior can participate during the entire rehearsal. **Caps and gowns will be distributed in the Lecture Hall on Friday, June 13, from 10:00-11:00 a.m.** All textbooks, fines, and other obligations owed to the school must be cleared by Wednesday, May 30, 2008. **CAPS AND GOWNS WILL NOT BE GIVEN** to those who still have outstanding obligations. Please check in your subschool.

Each graduate will receive ten tickets for graduation at the Patriot Center. **Tickets will be distributed on Monday, June 16 following the second graduation rehearsal.** If families need more than ten tickets, they should contact Connie Ryals, Subscool 5 Administrative Assistant. We will do our best to accommodate all families.

Seating

Seating is available for patrons in wheelchairs as well as those who may have difficulty with steps. The Main entries are wheelchair accessible; there are no steps or elevators to negotiate. Access parking is available outside the **SOUTH** entry and a drop-off area available at the **WEST** entry.

Parking

There is ample regular parking at the Patriot Center. Event parking is handled by Patriot Center traffic marshals and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

***TO ASSURE THE DIGNITY OF THE CEREMONY, YOU MUST COMPLY WITH THE EXPECTATIONS
WRITTEN BELOW IF YOU ARE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRADUATION.***

Dress

Girls should wear dress clothing (no shorts) and dress shoes. No purses may be brought into the Patriot Center. Boys should wear dress slacks (no jeans or shorts), a tie, and dress shoes (no sneakers) with socks.

Only the National Honor Society stole and/or the medals received at the Senior Awards Night may be worn at graduation.

Time to Report

Graduates are expected to report, **with CAPS and GOWNS**, to the George Mason University, Patriot Center by **12:00 p.m.**, on Tuesday, June 17, 2008.

Appropriate Behavior

Appropriate dress and behavior is expected prior to and during the ceremony. It will be necessary to exclude any individual who disrupts the ceremony or is found in possession of alcohol, tobacco, beach balls, balloons, fireworks, etc. Your cooperation in making this a meaningful occasion for students, their parents, the community and the school is expected and appreciated.

Graduation Contract

In order to receive your cap and gown, you must return the enclosed graduation contract, completed and signed, to your subschool secretary no later than Monday, June 2, 2008.

Guests

We request that parents and friends should not leave their seats to take pictures. A professional photographer has been contracted to take pictures of each senior as the diploma is awarded. The photographer will contact Seniors. There will also be a videographer. The contact information for both will be available at the ceremony and in the program.

Baccalaureate will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 15, 2008, at Nativity Catholic Church, Burke, VA. This ceremony has been organized and sponsored entirely by senior students and their parents and is not sponsored or endorsed by Fairfax County Public Schools. Attendance at the ceremony by any school employee is the result of a voluntary, private decision by that individual and does not indicate any endorsement by the school. Performers are to arrive at 3:00 pm at the church. All other seniors are to arrive at 4:00 pm in the school directly across the parking lot from the church. Wear gowns please. For more information contact or www.lbssptsa.org under Baccalaureate.

Senior Awards will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theatre.

National Honor Society Members

Please be aware that all members of NHS in good standing will receive an "Honor Stole" to be worn at graduation. To receive your stole you must have completed all requirements of the NHS. These requirements include.

- * \$5 per year dues
- * 16 hours community service per year / 8 per semester
- * Cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher

Seniors who have not met these requirements have been informed that they no longer are in good standing in the NHS and will not receive an Honor Stole for graduation. Please mark your calendar for the final NHS meeting, which will be held on **Wednesday, May 30, 2007** at 2:20 p.m. in the **Lecture Hall**. This is a **mandatory** meeting for all senior members. All requirements must be completed by this date. If you are unsure of your status, please check with your assigned NHS officer or see Mr. Conlin in H140.

All Night Graduation Party

Tuesday, June 17, 2008: 11:00 p.m. - 5:00 a.m. (Parent Sponsored) at Wakefield Park Recreation Center. Safe Drug Alcohol Free Night of Fun—All Seniors are encouraged to attend!! Reservation information can be found at www.lbssptsa.org. Cost is \$65.00 per student and includes a T-Shirt. Your T-shirt is your ticket in the door. Contact Judy Dioquino at 703 644-0184 or tddioquino@msn.com for more information. Volunteers are needed please contact lesandroy@cox.net if you are interested.

Special Reminder Regarding Substance Abuse and your Teenager

As your teenager prepares to attend the Lake Braddock Secondary School graduation ceremony and related events, it is an appropriate time to review the substance abuse policy and the consequences for violation as it pertains to school-sponsored activities. Violations include use, possession, distribution, attempting distribution, manufacturing, giving, being under the influence, of illegal drugs or intoxicants, including alcohol, while on school property or while attending a school activity (such as the prom). They also include being present on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity within a reasonable time after having consumed or used alcohol, or any other substance as listed above. The mandatory punishment requires a five-day suspension for the first offense and a thirty-day prohibition from any and all school activities. This means that a student in violation of the policy on or after May 17 would not be permitted to attend any of the ceremonies or functions related to graduation, including: the Senior Awards (6/12), Prom (6/13) Commencement (6/17) or the All-Night Graduation Party (6/17). Please don't allow substance abuse to ruin what should be a joyous time for all students and their families. We want this to be a safe and happy time.