

Etiquette for Senior Activities at David H. Hickman High School

INFORMATION REGARDING SENIOR OPEN HOUSE:

Senior Open House: *May 16th, Hickman High School, 6:00-7:00 pm.* A new tradition! Seniors will meet at Hickman in their caps and gowns to mark the beginning of the end of their high school journey. No speeches, no program, no assembly, just FUN! Bring your yearbook to pass about, wear your cap and gown, take pictures around the school with your family and friends. This is the only time you will have to take pictures in your cap and gown at Hickman. There will be drinks and snacks provided by the PTSA. (Cap and Gown Required)

INFORMATION REGARDING COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL:

When will Commencement Rehearsal be held? Who should attend? The Commencement practice will be held from 10:30am-noon, May 21st, in the Lower Gym at Mizzou Arena. **ALL STUDENTS WHO PLAN TO WALK AT COMMENCEMENT MUST ATTEND.** Dress casually for the practice. **You will fill out a request for your final transcript at rehearsal.**

INFORMATION REGARDING COMMENCEMENT:

*Participation in Commencement is a **formal** ceremony and not a pep assembly or party. Students should conduct themselves in a respectful manner similar to an honors ceremony or church service. You will have plenty of time to celebrate loudly later.*

How is the cap and gown to be worn during Commencement? The cap is to be worn square on the head and may not be decorated in any fashion other than the tassel. **You will NOT be allowed to wear a decorated cap. Nothing should be on the gown, i.e., pins, broaches, boutonnieres or necklaces.** Gowns should be allowed to hang to remove wrinkles. If it is still necessary to press your gown, use a cool iron. A hot iron will burn a hole in the gown material.

Are caps removed any time during Commencement? Male students remove their caps during the national anthem.

Are seats reserved for my parents and family at Commencement? No seats are reserved. Ramps and elevators are available. Seating in the auditorium behind the stage is also not allowed. Seating is first come first serve. There will be access for handicap seating. For reasons of security and safety, all bags will be checked by university personnel as people enter the Mizzou arena.

Guidelines concerning student appearance and behavior at Commencement include:

Cap and gown are required at both Commencement. Dress and groom in such a way that your entire family will be proud. This is a formal event and formal attire is required. **Shorts, tennis shoes, and jeans are not allowed. Simply stated, this is dress-up time!** If you have any questions concerning appropriate attire or if this is a financial burden for your family, please see an administrator before school ends on Friday, May 14.

Specifics for Gentlemen: A necktie preferred, collared dress shirt, dress slacks, and dress shoes are recommended. Coats are not necessary but may be worn if you desire. No sandals, no flip flops, no face paint.

Specifics for Ladies: A dress or nice pants and top. Dress shoes or dress sandals are recommended. No flip flops, no face paint. When selecting your shoes, please be aware that you will need to walk up and down very steep steps.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT YOUR DEAN OR BUILDING PRINCIPAL.

INFORMATION REGARDING COMMENCEMENT:

Will tickets be needed for family and guests to attend Commencement? No, there should be plenty of seating available. We suggest that those who have special needs for handicapped seating arrive early to allow for safe selection of seating.

What parking is available at Mizzou Arena for those attending Commencement? Parking is available adjacent to the arena in designated areas. Please tell parents to arrive early because traffic does get heavy around the arena. Limited handicapped parking is available adjacent to Mizzou Arena.

When should seniors arrive for the Commencement Ceremony? It is essential that you be on time so that all seniors can line up for the processional. You should arrive in the line up area no later than 9:45 a.m., on May 22. Remember to leave time in your plans in order to locate a parking space. **We will meet in the lower Practice Gym, which is located ground floor of Mizzou Arena.**

What will happen when I arrive at MU? *When entering Mizzou Arena, you should carry your cap and gown on a hanger and leave **all cell phones, purses, and personal items in your car.** You will check in at a table where faculty and staff will screen all students entering. We will have faculty and staff with Ziploc bags to hold items and keep them safe until after the ceremony. Your property will be returned when you pick up your diploma. **NO inflatable items such as beach balls, blow up toys, etc. noise makers, or projectiles** will be allowed. Students who purposely disrupt the ceremony in any fashion will be removed from the ceremony and his or her diploma will be withheld*

How will we know where to sit during Commencement? At the Commencement Rehearsal at **10:30 a.m., May 21, 2021** you will be given your seating assignment. Your name is read over the loudspeaker system as you walk across the front to receive your diploma cover.

Who may participate in the Commencement Exercises? A graduate is a student who has met all graduation requirements to earn a diploma. You will be notified by your counselor before you leave school on May 14, if you cannot graduate nor participate in the Commencement Ceremony due to credit deficiencies.

Is it true that we receive only a diploma cover at Commencement? Yes. During the ceremony itself you will be handed an empty diploma cover. You'll pick up your diploma from faculty after the ceremony!

What should be the conduct of guests while names are being read during Commencement? We ask that all guests refrain from shouting, whistling, or clapping during the reading of your name. Also, noisemakers (ex. air horns) are not allowed, and will be confiscated immediately. The university forbids such items in the arena. It is important that each student's name be heard as part of celebrating the accomplishment of graduating from Hickman and it is unfair when a distraction keeps parents and loved ones from hearing their student's name read. Please discuss this issue with all of your guests prior to the ceremony. Your classmates and their parents and guests will appreciate it!

When and where can my guests take pictures or videotape? Picture taking and video taping before and after Commencement is welcomed outside of Mizzou Arena. However, we ask that during the graduation exercise all guests stay at their seats. If they would like to take pictures or video from that vantage point, it is permissible. Guests will not be able to come to the floor area during the Commencement exercise. Seating in the Mizzou Arena seats behind the stage is also not allowed.

What photography services are available? Graduation is photographed by GRADIMAGES. GRADIMAGES will take several formal pictures and you will be able to access these a few days after graduation at www.gradimages.com. You will also receive a mailing with your proofs to order.