

Graduation Planning

PGHS Class of 2021



PRINCE GEORGE OLS 'PUBLIC SCH PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY Y PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Plan 1: Traditional Outdoor Graduation

Saturday, June 19, 2021



Alternative Plan 1: Indoor Graduation





Monday, June 14th - Friday, June 18th 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day

PGCP



Seniors will be assigned individual appointment times, beginning with honor graduates and continuing alphabetically.



Based on current guidance from the Virginia Department of Health and the State Superintendent of Education, indoor graduations are limited to 10 people; therefore each graduate will be allowed 5 guests.

** If the guidance for indoor ceremonies changes prior to June, graduates can invite additional guests.

Stations



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Seniors will enter the building in graduation regalia and pass through a series of stations to include a lastminute medal pick-up (medals will be distributed the week prior to graduation) and mirror check; photo stops; the opportunity to record a short video message; and a time capsule.

The final station will be the gym, where the student's name will be called, and he/she will cross the stage to receive the diploma.





A recording of "Pomp and Circumstance" and other appropriate march music will play in the gym

Other celebratory music will play in the commons and in the auditorium.





Families will be invited to send in posters honoring seniors that will be displayed throughout the hallways.

The PTA will be asked to assist with these decorations.





Once dates are finalized, Candid Color will be contacted for their availability to provide professional photography.





Alternative Plan 2: Small Group Outdoor Graduation

** This option will only be possible if the guidelines from VDH and the State Superintendent's Office change to increase the number of participants allowed at graduation ceremonies.

Dates

Wednesday, June 16 & Thursday, June 17 Rain Date - Friday, June 18

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8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 1:00 PM, and 3:00 PM each day



Ceremony Details

8 small group graduation ceremonies, 4 per day

50 students per ceremony, 5 ticketed guests per student

Each senior will be given two parking passes - one for press box parking and one for the field house.



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Processional

Seniors will be dropped off at PGHS gym lobby 30 minutes prior to their ceremony start time to be checked in and lined up.

Students will process to the football field and be seated on the field.

"Pomp & Circumstance" will play as graduates process.

Ceremony Details

Due to a smaller crowd, the stage may be oriented in the center of the field facing the home side.

After a brief ceremony that will include the national anthem, a short welcome, and the presentation of graduates, seniors will be called to cross the stage to receive their diplomas.

After the conferring of diplomas, students will recess to their chosen senior song or other celebratory music.





Once dates are finalized, Candid Color will be contacted for their availability to provide professional photography.





Processional and Presentation

A few faculty volunteers will assist with lining up students, leading the processions and guiding students on the field. There will be no faculty procession.

School administration will read the graduates' names. Division administration will take turns representing the district on stage. They may be seated on the stage or may lead the procession of seniors to the field.





Ceremonies will be live-streamed with the link provided on the school website and social media accounts.



Clements drop off and pick up will need to be rerouted for these two days, perhaps limiting drop off/pick up to the Laurel Spring side of the press box and parking incoming graduation guests (for the morning ceremonies) on only the 156 side.





Celebration Stations

Monday and Tuesday of "walk week" will be celebrated with an opportunity to participate in various stations to include: a time capsule, video message, and photo booths.

The stations will be located in the school auditorium and gym lobby.

Seniors will come during established time frames.

Faculty monitors will limit the number of student allowed to enter at one time in order to maintain appropriate health and safety measures.



Senior Recognition and Celebrations







A virtual ceremony video tribute will be posted to the website on Saturday, June 19 at 9:00 AM. The pre-recorded virtual ceremony will feature a welcome from the administration and Superintendent as well as student speeches from student government leaders, the valedictorian, and the salutatorian.

All candidates for graduation will be featured with their own personal slide as part of the virtual ceremony.



From June 14 through June 19, PGHS will "Light Up the Night," with the Athletic Stadium field lights illuminated at 8:20 P.M. for exactly 20 minutes and 21 seconds, while "2021" is displayed on the scoreboard.



Additional Celebrations

A celebratory yard sign will be provided to each member of the Class of 2021.

"PGHS Class of 2021" graduation masks will be provided to every graduate as part of their "regalia."

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Commemorative programs will be printed for each graduate and their family.

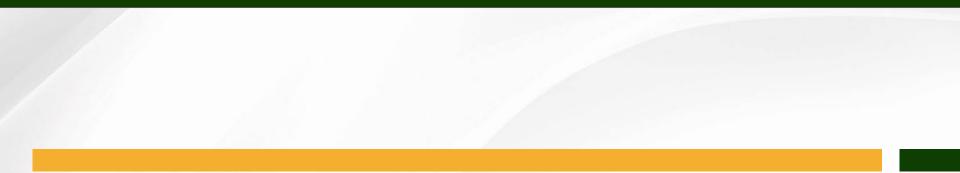
A Senior parade, in conjunction with the James River Junior Women's Club, will take place.

VDH & CDC Guidelines

Note: All planning will be based upon current information; any of the guidelines the CDC and other health authorities recommended will be in place. Safety precautions for the ceremonies will include, but are not limited to, the mandatory wearing of face masks even for those who have been vaccinated, social distancing, limited ticketing and strict arrival, departure and stage procedures.



Questions and Issues to Consider (Indoor Ceremonies)



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Diploma Preparation

To adhere to the June 14 to 18 timeline, senior exams will need to be administered Tuesday, June 8th and Wednesday, June 9th.

Senior grades will need to be due by noon on Thursday, June 10th to allow Guidance time to update the list of eligible seniors.

The Graduation Coordination Team will prepare diplomas on Friday, June 11th.

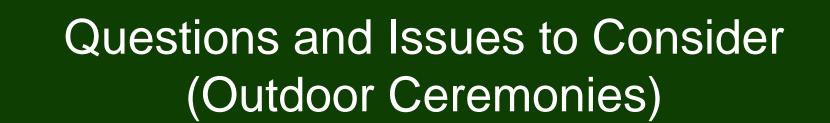
Honor graduates will need to be verified by the end of the school day on Wednesday, June 9th to allow for the program insert to be printed and the walk schedule to be generated in time for parent notification.





The school calendar shows Monday and Tuesday of the proposed senior "walk week" as regular school days and Wednesday through Friday as early release days.

The calendar will impact plans for either proposal.



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New sound stadium system will be utilized to read the names of the graduates.

There will not be a need to hire a professional sound company.





Due to the limited number of participants at each ceremony, there will be a reduced number of police officers needed to assist with the ceremony.

School staff will be needed to assist with parking.

EMS or nursing staff should be available and on site both days.





The families of graduates will not be allowed to park at the field until 30 minutes prior to their ceremony time.

Graduates and their families will need to leave the stadium, no more than 30 minutes after their ceremony has ended. This will allow the next group of graduate families to park at the stadium.

Graduates will park at the high school.



Student Regalia

Students will be expected to wear traditional graduation attire.

Students will not be allowed to have their cell phones during the ceremony.

Students may not decorate their caps for the graduation ceremony.





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