



*****IMPORTANT COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY INFORMATION*****

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

1:00 PM

Chuck Stevens Field at Flashes Stadium

(Inclement Weather Date: Wednesday, June 1, same time and place)

We are thrilled that this year's commencement ceremony will be celebrating the entire Class of 2022 all at the same time! No cohorts, no alpha split; just our seniors! Additionally, we are also excited to host graduation at home in Flashes Stadium! Even though last year's move was due to less than desirable circumstances (thanks, COVID), the rave reviews and numerous thank-yous received following the event told us that having it anywhere other than Chuck Stevens Field would diminish the majesty of it all. No need to pay for parking, fight traffic, or scramble for a seat. The views are outstanding from anywhere in the stands!

Seating for viewing the ceremonies will be on both sides of the stadium. An area dedicated ADA seating will be available as will sign language services. Because we know that there are likely many more people that want to celebrate your achievements than can attend in person, the event will be live-streamed at <https://youtu.be/UvWZtlxnml>

As you already know, **graduation rehearsal on Friday, May 27th, is MANDATORY**. If you do not attend, you will not participate in Commencement. ***Please plan on reporting to the main gym no later than 12:50 that day*** to walk through the festivities. This is not only when you will receive your packet of graduation information (each graduate will receive six tickets to give to friends and family that want to attend), but also when you will find out where you will be seated and the processes for picking up your diploma, processional, and recessional.

You have dedicated the last thirteen years of your life to getting your Franklin Central High School diploma and the graduation ceremony is designed to honor your achievements accordingly. Everyone deserves to hear their name read and relish the moment when they pick up their diploma; we need your assistance to make that happen. Please ask family and friends to respect all members of the Class of 2022 and refrain from disruptive behaviors such as shouting, using noisemakers, bringing large signs that make it hard for others to see, etc. You all deserve your moment in the limelight and we don't want anyone to trivialize that for you. After all

names have been read, there will be ample opportunity to celebrate, cheer, and shout for the Class of 2022!

We anticipate that the ceremony will last approximately two hours. The deans will be helping with timing and spacing as you line up to make your way across the stage. Each graduate will have their picture taken at the end of the ramp as they exit the stage. School administration, district leaders, and school board members will all be present to congratulate you along the way.

A few other details to remember:

1. Rain or shine, *you must attend rehearsal on Friday, May 27th*. You will receive your tickets at rehearsal.
2. Commencement is a formal event and your attire should reflect that. Some things to consider:
 - a. You are walking on turf-- for those who have not done that before, it is very squishy. Heels cannot be worn as they will damage the surface. Wedges or other elevated shoes will sink into the surface causing the potential for someone rolling or spraining an ankle. Please do not wear heels to the graduation ceremony (or rehearsal).
 - b. Dress shirts, ties, long pants, skirts, or dresses are appropriate attire for the event. Please do not wear shorts or flip-flops.
 - c. There can be no decoration of your mortarboards (graduation caps). They should remain solid blue or white just as they were when you picked them up.
 - d. Gowns must be fully zipped up and undecorated other than the school-approved academic medals and cords provided in your graduation packet.
 - e. The only cords that are allowed are those that are school-issued.
 - f. If you have any questions about graduation attire, please contact your counselor.
3. Do not bring anything to the rehearsal or the ceremony that cannot fit in your pocket or underneath your robe (a small bag or wristlet, for example.) You will not be returning to the staging area until after the ceremony and there will be no way to secure any items left behind.
4. Gates for the ceremony will open at 12:00 (noon). Seating is general admission. Please be considerate of others and do not spread out unnecessarily. Everyone wants to see their grad walk across the stage! [Seating Layout](#) and [Parking Map](#)
5. After the ceremony, you will file into the auxiliary gym to pick up your diploma from your counselor-- you will only receive the cover on stage. You will then exit out to the parking lot where you can meet up with your family and friends. Only graduates will be allowed to enter the area to pick up their diplomas. Please plan a meeting spot with your loved ones outside of the building.
6. All audience members must exit the stadium at the conclusion of the ceremony. No one will be allowed back onto the field once commencement is over.

Congratulations to the Class of 2022 and thank you for making graduation a truly memorable event!