

# OAKLAND MILLS HIGH SCHOOL

“HOME OF THE SCORPIONS”



## CLASS OF 2018 SENIOR ACTIVITIES AND COMMENCEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

MS. ELAINE REID, SUBSTITUE PRINCIPAL

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

MRS. BETSY COE  
MRS. STASHA SWARTZ  
MR. BRIAN WALLACE  
MS. ARNETTA YOUNG

### GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

MS. LATIA DOUGLAS  
MRS. KARA FICK  
MRS. NATALIA HART  
MR. LEO QUINN  
MRS. DONNA UECKERMANN

### GRADUATION COORDINATORS

MRS. JESSICA CUTLER

### CLASS ADVISOR

MS. NICOLE KAUFMANN

## Oakland Mills High School - Class of 2018 Frequently Asked Questions about Graduation

*It is imperative that you be prompt for **ALL** rehearsals and that you cooperate fully in all that is asked of you so that these culminating events will be very special for you and your family.*

### When and where is graduation?

The graduation ceremony for Oakland Mills High School will take place on Friday, May 25, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Merriweather Post Pavilion. Graduates will need to arrive at Merriweather Post Pavilion at 10:00 a.m.

### Do I have to go to the rehearsals? What if I have release time?

All students are required to attend all rehearsals if you wish to participate in the graduation ceremony. If you are on release time, site-based work, or are in mentorship, you will need to make arrangements to attend all rehearsals and mandatory activities. You should be on time and stay for the full rehearsal. If a student is unexpectedly absent on the day of a scheduled graduation rehearsal or required senior activity, the student's parent or guardian must contact the senior administrator, Mrs. Coe, by 8:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the emergency absence.

### When is the Awards Ceremony and do I have to attend?

The Senior Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 23rd from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in the school auditorium. All seniors are required to attend and parents are invited to attend. Caps & gowns will be worn at the awards ceremony. Seniors must line up by 8:00 a.m. in the gymnasium.

### What should I wear to the Awards Ceremony and Graduation?

All students should be dressed in formal attire. No tennis shoes, flip-flops, sneakers, boots, or any other casual footwear are permitted at any of the ceremonies. Wear your cap straight on your head with the deep part in the back and the tassel on the right side.

## When will I get my Cap and Gown, and what should I do with it?

Seniors will receive their caps and gowns at the first rehearsal on Thursday, May 17th. Gown should be hung on a hanger to reduce wrinkles. Any student with an outstanding Jostens balance **WILL NOT** receive their cap and gown until the balance is paid in full.

## Do I have to take my finals to graduate?

All seniors must take a final examination in each class in order to earn a credit for the course.

## How late can I turn in my make-up work or complete missed exams?

Please discuss make-up work options with your individual class teachers. All missed exams must be completed by the end of the day on Tuesday, May 22nd. There will be scheduled exam make-up time on Tuesday, May 22nd from 12:25-2:10. Students should make arrangements with their teacher to make up any missed exams.

## What should I do about obligations?

Please check the list on Mrs. Brown's door for obligations. All obligations must be cleared no later than Friday, May 11th. See Mrs. Brown if you have any questions about student debts. After May 1st, only cash or money orders will be accepted. **Don't wait until the last minute to clear your debts. GRADUATION TICKETS WILL NOT BE GIVEN UNTIL ALL OBLIGATIONS ARE PAID IN FULL.**

## Do I have to participate in Graduation?

Participation in graduation is optional. If you chose not to participate in the Graduation Ceremony, a written request must be submitted by your parent or guardian. Please see Mrs. Coe in order to obtain a form. Completed forms should be turned in to Mrs. Coe by Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

## How many tickets do I get?

All graduating members of the Class of 2018 will automatically receive twelve (12) tickets. If you need more than 12 tickets, ask friends who may not need all 12 if you can have a few. Also, up to 3 additional tickets may be picked up from the front office on the morning of May 25th. Extra tickets will be given out on a first come, first served basis on the morning of May 25th.

## Can my parents take pictures at Graduation?

Yes! Your parents and guests are welcome to take pictures from their seats. However, we ask that they not go into the aisles or in front of the stage. There will be a professional photographer who will take your picture as you receive your diploma. The proofs will be sent to you by U.S. Mail. There is no obligation to buy. There will also be a video available for purchase. Please check the Howard County Public Schools website for video purchasing details.

## Where do we get our diplomas and report cards?

You will be handed the diploma cover only while on stage. Your row advisor will hand you an envelope with your diploma, report card, and any certificates you have earned as you walk back to your seat after leaving the stage.

## Is there special parking for the disabled or elderly?

Yes, Merriweather has handicapped parking by the pavilion. There will be parking attendants throughout Merriweather to direct you. In order to park in the handicapped area, the vehicle must contain the MVA issued place card or license plate. If you do not have an MVA issued handicap parking tag, there will be a drop off point for those who are unable to walk from the designated parking lot. Please be advised that guests who park in the regular lot will have to walk up a steep hill to the Merriweather entrance. Please consider using the drop-off parking lot for guests who may struggle walking uphill. Handicapped seating is available as well for guests as well.

## Can I request a Sign Language Interpreter?

If you or a family member is in need of a sign language interpreter, please contact Mr. Quinn, guidance counselor, by Friday, May 4th. Reserved seating is available as well for guests who request a sign language interpreter.

**Please see Mrs. Cutler, Ms. Moore, or Mrs. Coe if you have additional questions.**

***Reminder: All Howard County System Policies and school rules will remain in effect throughout all senior activities.***