



# River Ridge High School Royal Knights

(Phone) 727.774.7200 (Fax) 727.774.7291 (Website) <http://rrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us>

Dr. Toni Zetsche, Principal

Ronald Bruno, Assistant Principal • Heather Ochs, Assistant Principal • Janene Sullivan, Assistant Principal • Jessica Meek, Assistant Principal

February, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The **Class of 2018** proudly announces its graduation. The graduation ceremony will be held on **Saturday, May 26, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. at the University of South Florida Sun Dome**. Though the ceremony begins at 7:30pm, students will report to the Sun Dome by 5:00PM. In order to uphold the dignity of our graduation ceremony and to meet increased security requirements, the following procedures will be followed by the University of South Florida Sun Dome and the Pasco County School District:

1. **Senior Breakfast**, a breakfast held for the senior students only, will be held on **Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** at Spartan Manor. There is not a fee for this event, nor is there a ticket. This was included in the senior fees. This event will begin at 8AM. Dress for this event is business professional. Students should be dressed appropriately. Students who are in jeans, shorts, flip-flops, or any attire deemed not business professional will be turned away from this event and not admitted until they comply with the dress code.
2. **Graduation Practice and Senior Check-out are mandatory**. They will be held at River Ridge High School in the gymnasium on **Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 from 7:30AM – 11:00AM and Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 from 7:30AM – 11:00AM**. Any student who does not attend rehearsal may not be allowed to participate in the ceremony. Students should arrive at the school by 7:30AM and be ready to practice on time. **Students should not plan on leaving until 11:00AM. Students will not be allowed to leave any earlier than 11:00AM. Any students that have additional items to take care of may be required to stay long to complete the check-out process.**
3. During Graduation Practice and Checkout, students will be receiving a final notice of debts. These will be due on the second day of practice, Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> PRIOR to receiving the cap and gown (which will be distributed only on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the end of practice).
4. For Graduation Practices and Checkout, **students must be dressed according to the Pasco County School District Dress Code. Students will be sent home to change if they are out of dress code and this may jeopardize their participation in graduation.**
5. **Parking lots around the University of South Florida Sun Dome charge approximately \$5.00 for parking.**
6. The graduates must carry their caps and gowns into the University of South Florida Sun Dome as a visual search will be conducted by security personnel. Graduates may put their gowns on after they have entered the building. Additionally, they should not bring anything else with them except their caps and gowns. This includes purses and bags. Graduates should enter and go immediately to the entry that is marked for graduates (Gate A near the USF Store).
7. Tickets are not required for entry into the commencement exercises. For seating, your party should arrive at the same time if you want to sit together.



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8. **All bags brought in by guests will be searched and all guests will be wanded by security staff.** No backpacks will be permitted in the University of South Florida Sun Dome. Cameras and binoculars will only be permitted if they are out of their cases (the cases should be left in the car).
9. Balloons, flowers, signs, noisemakers of any kind (including, but not limited to, bull horns, cowbells, whistles and air horns), or laser pointers will NOT be allowed in the University of South Florida Sun Dome.
10. Concessions at the University of South Florida Sun Dome may be open before the ceremony begins. Food and drink can be purchased for guests only.
11. Hearing-impaired services are available. Please contact Mr. Bruno on or before March 14, 2018 if you are in need of this service.
12. We recommend having a pre-arranged meeting place set with your graduate and family following the ceremony. Graduates will first have to pickup their diplomas following the ceremony in the area reserved for graduates, then will be able to meet at a spot immediately following this process.
13. **Shout Outs-**A shout out is a special message to congratulate students who are graduating (or messages from the graduate to family members thanking them for everything) These messages will be shown in the giant screens in the Sun Dome. Each shout out is **\$25 and limited to 100 characters. We are only able to submit 75 shout outs to USF for the commencement ceremony, so it will be on a first come first serve basis. Please submit your shout out to Mr. Bruno by Monday, April 23.**

Students will be informed by their guidance counselor if their graduation status changes. If a student is no longer eligible to graduate per the standards set by the State of Florida and the School District of Pasco County, then he/she will not be able to participate in the graduation ceremony. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in making our graduation ceremony a memorable event for our graduates and their guests. If you have any questions or concerns regarding graduation, please contact me at or Mr. Bruno at (727)774-7214 or e-mail [rbruno@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:rbruno@pasco.k12.fl.us) , or you can contact me by email [ksaddler@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:ksaddler@pasco.k12.fl.us).

With Best Wishes,

Kerry Saddler  
Class of 2018 Sponsor

## **CLASS OF 2018 YEAR-END SENIOR EVENTS & GRADUATION GUIDELINES**

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! We are giving you the following guidelines so that graduation will be a proud memory for all graduates. While we hope it does not become necessary, diplomas may be pulled for any student not following the guidelines set forth at any point through the graduation ceremony.

### **ONLINE CLASSES COMPLETION**

Students who are taking online classes must have assignments and DBAs completed no later than **Friday, April 27, 2018 at 11:59PM** AND all exams completed no later than **Friday, May 4, 2018 at 11:59PM** if they intend to participate in the May 26<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony.

### **SENIOR BREAKFAST**

All senior students are invited to attend the annual Senior Breakfast that will be held on **Thursday, May 24, 2018 at Spartan Manor** and begins **promptly at 8 am**. The address is 6121 Massachusetts Avenue, New Port Richey, FL, 34653. This event is included in senior fees and does not require a ticket. **Students will be required to dress in business casual attire**. This would include dress pants, dress shirt with tie, socks and dress shoes, specifically closed shoes (no sneakers, sandals, flip flops, etc.) for boys. For girls, a dress or skirt and blouse or pant suit. Jeans, shorts, shirts without a collar, tennis shoes, and flip-flops will not be permitted and students will be sent home to change if they come to the event dressed in this manner.

### **GRADUATION PRACTICE & SENIOR CHECKOUT**

Graduation Practice and Senior Checkout will be held on **Tuesday, May 22, 2018 from 7:30- 11:00am** and **Wednesday, May 23, 2018 from 7:30- 11:00am** in the gym at River Ridge High School. Attendance on both days is **MANDATORY** for participation in graduation. Senior Checkout will be conducted on both days, with **final checkout held on the second day**. Students should not plan on leaving before 11am. **On the second day those students that attended graduation practice for both days will receive their Caps & Gowns/honor chords during the FINAL checkout process. There is no exception to this policy.**

Students that properly checkout and attend graduation practice **BOTH DAYS** will be able to participate in the Graduation Ceremony and receive diplomas. The administrator in charge of graduation (Mr. Bruno) **MUST** review and approve any extenuating circumstances. Students must be dressed according to the Pasco County School District Dress Code. Students will be sent home to change if they are out of dress code and this may jeopardize their participation in graduation.

### **CEREMONY**

The graduation ceremony will be held on **Saturday, May 26 at 7:30PM**. It will begin promptly at 7:30PM. **Seniors are to report to the University of South Florida Sun Dome in Tampa at 5PM** in order to line up for the ceremony. Please follow the signs upon entering the University of South Florida Sun Dome, as they will direct students and guests to the areas in which they should go. **Students should enter at the Corral**, which is to the left of Gate A. **Parking is \$5 (Cash only)**. Leave your personal belongings with a family member. **Security will do a visual search and wand all of the graduates entering the Sun Dome**. All bags and purses will be searched. **NO backpacks** will be permitted in the Sun Dome.

### **DRESS EXPECTATIONS**

**Dress Code for Graduates:** Dress pants and dress shirt with tie, a dress or skirt and blouse or pantsuit are recommended outfits. If wearing pants, wear matching/dark socks with dress shoes. No sneakers, sandals, flip flops, etc. are allowed. We recommend that students not wear high heels, as there will be a lot of walking and stair climbing. No visible "bulky" jewelry, scarves, ribbons, etc. are permitted.

**Personal Items:** Leave purses, cameras, and personal items with a parent or friend in the audience; they may not be taken in during the processional. Flowers or corsages are NOT permitted on the floor.

**Graduation Gowns:** We have ordered all caps and gowns for students. Please do not order a second cap and gown from Herff Jones. Please carry your cap and gown on your arm into the University of South Florida Sun Dome (i.e. don't wear them in). We will not have extra gowns on hand. Make sure that you bring yours to the ceremony. Gowns are to look like they did when received from the company. Nothing extra may be added to them

**Graduation Cap:** The mortarboard (graduation cap) is to be worn flat with the tassel over the right eye. Once the seniors are declared graduates, the tassel is moved to the left side in unison with the class. **ALL cap decorations are subject inspection at any given time. Failure to comply with the dress policy may result in the student not being permitted to participate in the ceremony.**

## BEHAVIOR

Graduation is a momentous occasion not only for the seniors, but also for their parents, families, and friends. For that reason, the ceremony is to be held with dignity and courtesy to others. All participants are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the occasion, which includes walking across the stage. All participants must comply with the Pasco County Student Code of Conduct. Inappropriate behavior will result in both students and parents/guardians having to meet with the school administration prior to receiving a diploma.

Improper noises and distractions will not be permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, noisemakers such as bullhorns, air horns, whistles, cowbells, and firecrackers, etc. Do NOT bring in beach balls, silly string, or any item that would be deemed inappropriate. We ask that you request family and friends to remain seated throughout the ceremony, except when it is appropriate to stand (during the Pledge of Allegiance, for example), as a courtesy to other graduates and their families and friends. No one, other than graduates and designated guests, are permitted in the seating area for graduates.

Anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not receive his/her diploma and/or will be turned over to appropriate law enforcement officials. As this is a School District of Pasco County event, alcohol will not be permitted inside of any of the areas in the University of South Florida Sun Dome dedicated to the graduation ceremony.

## TRAFFIC THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SUN DOME & PARKING

Please be advised that the time of arrival for the graduation ceremony for students (5pm) will coincide with early afternoon/evening traffic that is very heavy based on the location of the University of South Florida Sun Dome. Please plan appropriately when leaving your homes and give yourself more than enough time to arrive without incident. Once students and staff have left for the beginning of the ceremony, the students will not be permitted to enter into the seating area for graduates (i.e. **don't be late to graduation**). This is University of South Florida Sun Dome's security policy and will be strictly enforced. **There is a \$5.00 charge for parking (Cash Only)**. There are parking areas throughout the areas around the University of South Florida Sun Dome. Disabled parking is located at Gate A and Gate D, Parking Lot Area 22F. **The address is 4202 E. Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL, 33620**

## SEATING & TICKETS

Seating is unlimited in the University of South Florida Sun Dome. Tickets will not be necessary as a result. No one, other than graduates and designated guests, is permitted on the floor partitioned off on the University of South Florida Sun Dome. Floor seating is only permitted for invited dignitaries, graduating seniors, band members, faculty and staff, and other invited guests. All of these people will have tickets in order to go to the floor and will be listed on pre-approved lists provided to the University of South Florida Sun Dome. No one else is permitted on the floor of the University of South Florida Sun Dome. Those who need handicapped seating would be advised to enter in at Gate A, where there are elevators available. There is handicapped seating available throughout the Sun Dome. There is also reserved seating for the hearing impaired. Please contact Mr. Bruno if you need this service on or before March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Upon entering the Sun Dome, all people in attendance will be searched by security per Sun Dome policy. Concessions in the Sun Dome will be open before the ceremony begins. Food and drink can be purchased by guests only.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Gigante Productions (813-907-1078) will photograph each senior individually upon receiving his/her diploma and congratulations from the principal, as well as with their diplomas. Purchase of these photographs is optional. Gigante Productions will notify seniors via mail when the pictures are ready and all questions regarding these pictures should go to Gigante Productions. **Please make sure that your address is correct with River Ridge High School, as that is the address that we will provide to Gigante Productions. River Ridge High School does not receive any of these pictures or information following graduation.**

## DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION

Diplomas will be distributed by alphabet in the same way that students lined up behind the seating for guests. Students who have officially checked out will be able to receive their diplomas and participate in graduation. Only students meeting the behavioral requirements at graduation will receive a diploma.

After receiving your diploma, please exit the University of South Florida Sun Dome. We recommend having a pre-arranged meeting place set with your family.

## Shout outs

A Shout Out message is a special message to congratulate students who are graduating (or messages from the students to their parents). This message will be shown on giant screens in the Sun Dome. **These are due to Mr. Bruno by April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. Each Shout Out is \$25 and limited to 100 characters.** There is a limit of 75 Shout Outs allowed per the University of South Florida. You can submit your Shout Out on our website through the link, if you are interested submit early as it will be first come first served. You may also contact Mr. Bruno for more information at (727)-774-7214 or email [rbruno@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:rbruno@pasco.k12.fl.us)

### **Graduation Status**

Students will be informed by their guidance counselor, Mrs. Owens, if their graduation status changes. If a student is no longer eligible to graduate per the standards set by the state of Florida and the School Board of Pasco County, then he/she will not be able to participate in the May graduation ceremony. If you have any questions regarding graduation, Please contact Mrs. Sullivan (727)-774-7226 or email [jsulliva@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:jsulliva@pasco.k12.fl.us).

### **Prom**

Tickets for promi will go on sale March 5<sup>th</sup> in Mr. O'Leary's room. There will be NO ticket sales at the door. Prom is being held at the Hilton in Downtown Tampa on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. District School Board policies are in effect for this event; Failure to follow these policies make keep you in participating in the graduation ceremony.

### **Lost & Found**

Any items left behind from graduation will be kept in a box at Student Services, and will be available on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, after that we will dispose all such items.

**THE CLASS OF 2018 IS SETTING THE NEW STANDARD  
WHICH ALL OTHER CLASSES WILL FOLLOW.  
LET'S LEAD THE WAY.**



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## SENIOR FEES

2018 Senior Fees = \$90

**Senior Fee DISCOUNT:** Pay your fees at RRHS Registration on August 3rd or August 8th at a discounted rate of \$80. Senior Fees will go up in price again after December.

Student Fees can be paid to the class sponsor, Mrs. Saddler OR through MyStudent. All student Fees must be paid by May 1st. Please see Mrs. Sullivan (senior class administrator) or Mrs. Saddler (senior class sponsor) if you have any questions or concerns with student fees or anything else related to the 2018 graduation.

**NOTE: Senior fees do NOT cover cap and gown; those must be ordered directly from Herff Jones. Senior fees also do NOT cover the optional senior event at Universal (Grad Bash) on April 28-29, 2018. That is a separately ticketed event that will occur later in the year.**

Senior Fees cover senior class expenses including (but not limited to):

- Senior breakfast (May 17, 2018 @ Spartan Manor)
- Rental and Insurance to use the USF Sundome (Date TBT, May 17-20, 2018)
- Graduation diplomas, printing, covers
- Medallions
- Senior Class Scholarships
- Printing of graduation programs
- Decorations for graduation
- Laude cords
- Class gift to school
- Val/Sal/President gifts and medallions
- Graduation kits (items graduates tend to need on graduation day)
- Extra tassels
- Spirit week supplies
- Breakfast for Teacher Appreciation Week in May

# River Ridge High School

## Graduation Cap Decorating Procedures and Etiquette

Please take into consideration the following rules when decorating your graduation cap.

**Failure to comply with the rules will result in a replacement cap during commencement at YOUR cost!**

1. **No offensive language, sayings, nicknames, pictures, or lyrics on the cap**
2. **No objects, such as signs, stuffed animals, bells, flowers, or any kind of 3D object may rest on the cap.**
3. **ALL decorations MUST LAY FLAT on the cap.** Nothing can lay perpendicular thus allowing your family to see the decoration beyond eye level.
4. Your cap **CANNOT** make noise. **No bells, horns nor anything else that makes noises.**

**It IS appropriate to put the following on your cap:**

1. Thank a parent, grandparent, family, guardian, or teacher.
2. Recognize the college/university you will be attending.
3. Recognize the branch of military you have joined.

Students, we highly recommend you trace the cap onto cardboard and decorate the cardboard. In case you make a mistake, you are then able to start over with a new piece of cardboard. **We will NOT furnish a new cap for you if you mess yours up after decorating it.** After you are finished with decorating the cardboard you can use a double-sided tape or Velcro to attach it to your cap. This can be purchased at any craft store, such as Hobby Lobby, Michaels, or JoAnn's fabrics, or Walmart, Target, Walgreens, and some CVS stores. **Administration will reserve the right to disallow anything deemed inappropriate for the commencement ceremony.**

You should start thinking of ideas and collecting the crafts now. This can be done at home however there will be an opportunity to decorate after the second day of graduation practice at school, but there will be very limited supplies, so bring some for yourself if you plan on staying to decorate.

# AP EXAM SCHEDULE

## May 2018

April 2018							May 2018							June 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31											

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AP CHEMISTRY 8AM AP PSYCHOLOGY 12PM	AP SPANISH 8AM	AP ENGLISH LIT and COMP 8AM	AP ENGLISH LIT and COMP 8AM AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 12PM	AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS 8AM	AP US HISTORY 8AM AP COMPUTER SCIENCE 12PM	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
AP BIOLOGY 8AM AP PHYSICS C MECHANICS 12PM	AP CALCULUS AB 8AM AP CALCULUS BC	AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION 8AM AP MACROECONOMICS 12PM	AP WORLD HISTORY 8AM AP STATISTICS 12PM	AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 8AM AP MICROECONOMICS 8AM		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2



**IF YOU HAVE NOT ORDERED YOUR CAP AND GOWN PLEASE DO SO ASAP! YOU CAN ORDER ONLINE OR FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS  
Cap, Gown, and Tassel = \$25.50 = tax (\$27.29) AFTER MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> THE PRICE WILL INCREASE. CALL HERFF JONES FOR THE NEW PRICE**

On an index card, write the following LEGIBLY:

Your Full name  
River Ridge High School, Pasco County  
Phone number  
Your height  
Your weight

After 3/1/18  
\$ 37.60  
+ tax

STAPLE the index card to your check or money order (never send cash through the mail).

Make check payable to:

Herff Jones  
6009 Dr. Martin Luther King St. No.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

On the envelope, put "ATTENTION GRADUATION SPECIALIST"

After 2 weeks, call or email them to make sure they got your money.

JMcLay@herffjones.com

727.381.7714



UNIVERSAL ORLANDO™

# DRESS CODE GUIDELINES

ALL SCHOOLS SHOULD CONDUCT THEIR OWN SECURITY AND DRESS CODE SCREENING PRIOR TO DEPARTING FOR GRAD BASH.

## OK

### GIRLS

- Dresses, skirts, capris or shorts
- Casual pants (including jeans)
- Casual blouses and tops
- Comfortable shoes (including tennis shoes, dress sandals, boots and flip-flops)
- Purses size of 8.5" x 5.5" or under
- Fanny packs
- Hats
- Yoga Pants
- Drawstring bags
- College and professional team name or logos

### GUYS

- Casual pants or shorts (including khakis and jeans)
- Shirts with sleeves (polos, dress and t-shirts)
- Comfortable shoes (including tennis shoes, boots and flip-flops)
- Hats
- College and professional team name or logos

### CHAPERONES

- Large backpacks

## NOT OK

### UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE

- Clothing with excessive holes or shredding
- Clothing with obscene, offensive language or graphics
- Visible undergarments
- Tank tops or undershirts
- Clothing that exposes excessive portions of the skin that may be viewed as inappropriate at a school function (e.g., bikini tops and bottoms)
- Short shorts
- Area codes displayed on clothing
- Accessories such as chains, spiked collars or studded/spiked belts
- High School team name or logos
- No jerseys of any type

\*Universal Orlando reserves the right to refuse entry into the event or require the purchase of appropriate clothing for non-compliance with the dress code.

[UNIVERSALORLANDOYOUTH.COM/GRADBASH](http://UNIVERSALORLANDOYOUTH.COM/GRADBASH)