

April 30, 2025

Dear Graduates and Parents/Guardians:

As we approach the end of the year for our senior class, I want to congratulate our students on achieving this major milestone in their lives! The activities leading up to graduation are important events in our students' lives. The senior events will culminate with graduation on **Wednesday, May 21**, at the NOW Arena to celebrate the Class of 2025! The ceremony is a momentous occasion for your child. As parents, you are to be complimented for your support and encouragement.

The Senior Class Graduation Committee and Administration have planned a memorable series of activities for students who are in good standing. It is important to us that all students who qualify to participate in senior events and wish to attend can do so without financial duress. If any student needs assistance to participate in any senior activity, please contact Mrs. Nowak, Mrs. Ardell, or Mrs. Hill.

Listed below is information that will be helpful as our students complete their final days at Conant. Please review this information carefully as there are important details and deadlines.

Also, visit our Conant Website for important [Senior Information](#).

Friday, May 2

Senior Graduation Talk - Auditorium 2nd hour

Senior class advisor, Mr. Jacobsen and I will meet with the Class of 2025 to explain the end of year expectations and details for commencement. We are very clear about expectations leading up to graduation. We want our seniors to have fun and safe celebrations. At this meeting, students will hear that senior pranks or any risky behavior can result in serious consequences. We also have a wonderful time celebrating together as one class!

Saturday, May 3

Prom & Post Prom

Prom is located at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont. Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. Dinner is served at 8:00. Prom will end at 11:00 pm. Students who attend Post Prom will be escorted to their buses by 10:30 p.m. and travel to The Spirit of Navy Pier in

Chicago and are required to take the bus back to Conant at the end of the event. Buses will be returning to Conant at approximately 3:30 a.m. Please arrange a ride home from Conant in advance. More details can be found in our [Prom Newsletter](#).

Monday, May 5

Senior Breakfast Sales

This year's Senior Breakfast will be held at Belvedere Banquet Hall in Elk Grove Village. Tickets for Senior Breakfast will be sold Monday, May 5th through Friday, May 9th at the cashier's window in the main office. Senior Breakfast tickets are \$25 per student.

Monday, May 12

Graduation Cap, Gown, Tassel Distribution

Caps, gowns and tassels will be distributed to seniors in the Auditorium lobby periods 1 through 8 on Monday, May 12th. Students who have not prepaid will need to pay \$40.00 at the time of pick-up. Following distribution, any remaining caps and gowns will be available in the main office.

Thursday, May 15

Last day of regular school attendance for seniors.

Outstanding Obligations Deadline

In order to be in good standing to graduate and participate in senior activities, students must pay for or return all outstanding obligations. Students will be reminded of outstanding obligations during their last week of school attendance. All outstanding obligations including; academic, financial, non-academic, and iPad must be fulfilled **by May 15th**. Students should visit their Team Rooms if they have questions about obligations.

Monday, May 19

Graduation Rehearsal & Senior Sunset

On May 19th, seniors are to report directly to the main gym. Rehearsal starts promptly at 8:15 a.m. Graduation rehearsal is MANDATORY. Students who do not attend the rehearsal will not march at the ceremony. If an emergency occurs that prevents a graduate from attending the rehearsal, the student must notify Mrs. Ardell's office at (847)755-3612, or jardell@d211.org, before 4:00 p.m. on May 16th. All seniors will receive 8 graduation tickets during the rehearsal.

Senior Sunset

This year, seniors will return to Conant High School in our Stadium for a free and fun evening complete with many incredible raffle prizes, food, music, and movie to close out their senior year with more great memories.

Tuesday, May 20

Senior Breakfast

Senior Breakfast will start at 8:00 a.m. and end at 10:30 a.m. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Senior Breakfast Dress is day wear/business casual.

Location:

Belvedere Banquets

1170 W. Devon Ave.

Elk Grove Village, 60007

Wednesday, May 21

Graduation

The 60th Commencement from James B. Conant High School will be held at the NOW Arena located at 5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates. Parking is free and there are a number of ADA spots for those with special needs. Refer to [this parking map](#) for details. All guests will require a ticket upon admission. Each graduate will be given 8 tickets at the commencement rehearsal. All guests will be checked by security at the main entrance of the arena.

Graduates must report to their designated location, provided at rehearsal, promptly at 6:30 p.m. Graduates who arrive late will not be allowed to march in graduation.

The commencement ceremony will start promptly at 7:30 p.m. Only students who have fulfilled District 211 graduation requirements, or who are within 2 ¼ credits of the requirements, may march in the commencement ceremony.

The NOW Arena will not allow signs, balloons and/or noise makers to be brought into the arena. Flowers can be purchased at the venue.

The graduates who have purchased their caps and gowns and may keep them. If an emergency arises, replacement stoles, caps, and tassels are available at a cost of \$10 each.

Students are expected to wear clothing appropriate for the formality of the event. The stairs to the stage are steep and we encourage students to consider this when selecting shoes to wear. Students are not to bring corsages, purses, and/or flowers to the ceremony as there is no space for storage of those items. Any student needing support to obtain clothes or shoes for the ceremony is welcome to meet with their counselor or any administrator for assistance.

A professional photographer from VIP will take photos of students both prior to crossing the stage and as they receive their diplomas. Information regarding accessing photos and pricing will be sent prior to graduation.

The commencement ceremony lasts just over one hour. The distribution of diplomas absorbs most of the program time. In order for each student to be recognized and for their name to be heard, we ask for your cooperation by not applauding or recognizing individual graduates. We solicit your thoughtful consideration and will honor the class as a whole after all diplomas have been distributed. Any guest who disrupts the ceremony will be removed by the Hoffman Estates Police.

Thank you for your cooperation and our congratulations to you and your family. We look forward to a wonderful end of the year!

Sincerely,

Julie Nowak
Principal
James B. Conant High School
847-755-3610