

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 first 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 Monday, May 22 at the NOW Arena to celebrate the Class of 2023! 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 are able to 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](#).

Monday, May 1st

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 May 1 through May 15 at the cashier's window in the main office. Senior Breakfast tickets are \$20 per student.

Thursday, April 27th

Senior Graduation Talk

Senior class advisor, Mr. Jacobsen and I will meet with the Class of 2023 to explain 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. Students will hear that senior pranks or any risky behavior can result in serious consequences. At this event, we have a wonderful time together as it includes some special surprises that are the kick-off to all of the events planned for our senior class!

Friday, April 28

Prom

Prom is located at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont. Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. Prom and the event will end at 11:30 pm. Students who attend Post Prom will be escorted to the charter buses to The Spirit of Chicago at Navy Pier in Chicago and are required to take the charter 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 accordingly in advance.**

Monday, May 15

Graduation Cap, Gown, Tassel Distribution

Caps, gowns and tassels will be distributed in the Auditorium lobby periods 1 through 8 on Monday, May 15. 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 18

Last day of school attendance for seniors.

Friday, May 19

Graduation Rehearsal

On May 19, 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 8:00 a.m. on May 19.

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 19. Students should visit their Team Rooms if they have questions about obligations.

Senior Picnic

Senior picnic will be located outside immediately following the graduation rehearsal. Seniors are invited to attend this free picnic to enjoy food, music, and more great memories.

Monday, May 22

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 at minimum.

Location:

Belvedere Banquets

1170 W. Devon Ave.

Elk Grove Village, 60007

Graduation Ceremony

The 58th 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. 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. Caps and gowns will be worn uniformly at commencement without modifications (pins, medals, flowers, etc.) 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. Gym shoes, shorts, and/or jeans are not to be worn. 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 can meet with their counselor or any administrator for assistance.

A professional photographer from Lifetouch will take photos of students both prior to crossing the stage and as they receive their diplomas. Information regarding pricing will be sent prior to graduation. All images will be mailed home and will also be available online at www.events.lifetouch.com. Should you wish to purchase these photos, arrangements are to be made directly with Lifetouch as indicated in the information packet.

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. Any guest who disrupts the ceremony will be removed by the Hoffman Estates Police. We solicit your thoughtful consideration and will honor the class as a whole after all diplomas have been distributed.

Thank you to everyone who purchased an official Conant Graduate Class of 2023 Yard Sign - designed by Ririko Sakata - Class of 2023. Boosters are no longer taking orders for yard signs. Senior Yard Signs may be picked up on Saturday, May 6th, from 10am-noon at Conant High School in the drop-off/pick-up lane that is located on the south side of the building. A pickup reminder will be emailed to everyone that purchased a sign to the address used for checkout. If you did not pre-order a yard sign, but would still like to purchase one, we will have a VERY LIMITED number of signs available for purchase on Saturday, May 6th during our pick-up hours. Signs are \$20 each, cash or credit card.

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