



Biloxi High School

Biloxi Public Schools

1845 Tribe Drive, Biloxi, MS 39532 • (228) 435-6105 • Fax (228) 435-6353

Teresa Martin, Principal

May 8, 2023

Dear Senior Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and I know that you are excited about the upcoming graduation ceremony for Biloxi High School. Your child has worked extremely hard to reach this point and it is an important milestone in their life. Please see the agenda included with this letter to know about important events, dates, and times leading to graduation.

Graduation will be held at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum on Tuesday, May 23, 2023. The ceremony begins at 6:00 PM, but graduating seniors must arrive by 5:00 PM. High school graduation is a very important event for families and an accomplishment that should be celebrated. However, please remember that this is a serious ceremony and we respectfully request that those in the audience refrain from using air horns, noise makers, or prolonged cheering. This allows every child and family the honor of being able to hear their name called during the ceremony.

In order to make your arrival as smooth as possible, I want to point out several requirements from the MS Coast Coliseum. As a safety precaution, all spectators are required to pass through metal detectors as they enter the event. This security requirement may cause a slight delay in your entry. For this reason, I encourage you to arrive at the event early. In addition, the Coliseum does not allow balloons at the graduation ceremony. Any such gifts may be presented to graduates outside of the arena. Please note the attached map of parking areas and entrance locations for graduates and spectators.

I know that you join me in wanting this to be a wonderful experience for each of our graduates. Please contact Mrs. Katie Bertucci, Assistant Principal, if you have any questions concerning the graduation practice or ceremony. We look forward to seeing you at this special event.

Thank you,

Teresa Martin

Principal Biloxi High School

BILOXI HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION 2023

PRACTICE – 7:55 AM - 11 AM Biloxi High School Sports Arena, Thursday, May 18, 2023

GRADUATION – 6:00 PM MS Coast Coliseum REPORT TIME (5:00 PM), Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Senior Meeting May 8th @ 11:30 am in the BPAC

- 1.) Caps and Gowns will be issued on **Tuesday, May 9th**. (Students with a balance will not receive a cap/gown until paid in full)
- 2.) All deficiencies must be cleared by **Friday, May 12th**. Deficiencies can be paid in the Media Center (library). Seniors with deficiencies will not be issued a diploma and will not have their transcripts finalized until the deficiency is cleared.
- 3.) Seniors with failing grades in any subject must see a counselor immediately.
- 4.) Senior Exams will be administered on **Friday, May 12th**.
- 5.) Biloxi High School Academic Excellence Awards will be held for Seniors and Underclassmen on **May 16th** at 5:30 pm. Business attire should be worn. Students and parents of students being recognized will be notified. All seniors are welcome to attend.
- 6.) On **Thursday, May 18th**, seniors report to first period class at Biloxi High School at 7:55 AM sharp. Late Start students will report to the Sports Arena at 7:55 AM sharp. After first period attendance is recorded, seniors will be released to the Sports Arena and assigned to their seat for graduation practice. Honor graduates will be seated by rank with all other seniors seated alphabetically. ***Graduation practice is mandatory. If a senior does not participate in graduation practice, that senior will not participate in the graduation ceremony.***
- 7.) To participate in the graduation ceremony, graduating seniors will be required to wear business attire for the commencement exercise: Examples include: Dress, dress pants, collared shirt with a tie, dress shoes. Heels greater than 2 inches are not recommended. Graduation gowns must be kept zipped during the entire ceremony. **Graduation caps MAY NOT be decorated**. No gum, purses, cell phones, or other items on the graduation floor. Per Coliseum protocol, graduates will exit immediately after the ceremony and not be able to re-enter. Therefore, all personal belongings need to be left with family members prior to the graduate reporting to the staging room @ 5:00 PM.
- 8.) Stoles, cords, and/or club pins not approved by BHS administration will not be allowed to be worn during the ceremony.
- 9.) On **Tuesday, May 23rd**, seniors will report to the Coliseum by **5:00 PM**. At **5:15**, Seniors will be seated in order of the **graduation ceremony (as was practiced)**. Row monitors will take attendance. Seniors who are not present will be removed from the graduation list at 5:15. Seniors will remain seated until they are escorted by row monitors to begin lining up for the graduation procession. Seniors are not allowed to leave the line for **any** reason.
- 10.) Any senior violating any of the provisions of the policies pertaining to alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or vapes will be dismissed from the graduation exercises.
- 11.) Seniors may keep the cap, gown, tassel, and stole; honor graduates may keep their honor cords, as well.
- 12.) Any senior that does not meet graduation requirements can return their cap and gown to Jostens for a refund provided the cap, gown, and tassel were not removed from their original packaging. Individual arrangements for returns must be made with Jostens. They can be contacted at 601-782-9606.
- 13.) Graduates can pick up their diploma behind the stage directly concluding the graduation ceremony. Graduates on the deficiency list will need to turn in school issued items and pay fees before they are permitted to receive their diploma.
- 14.) **Reminder to Seniors Concerning Transcripts:** A final transcript of records showing graduation status must be sent to selected college(s). Please complete a request to send transcripts to the institutions of your choice at www.parchment.com. The school will not automatically send transcripts. Seniors must create an account at parchment.com and submit transcript requests via the website. This service is free to Seniors until June. After that time, it will cost \$5 per transcript. Also, if you are enrolled in dual credit classes you will need to do a separate transcript request from William Carey.

ALMA MATER

Let's sing to our dear Alma Mater

A song from hearts sincere; Let voices ring with adoration; Her name we will revere.

To her we will be ever loyal; Her fame will never die.

So here's to you, our Alma Mater, Dear Biloxi High.

