



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MENOMONEE FALLS

WISCONSIN

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
MENOMONEE FALLS

Pursuing Excellence
One Student at a Time

MENOMONEE FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
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April, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian of High School Seniors:

Graduation for the Class of 2017 is rapidly approaching. We are all working hard to ensure that the 2017 commencement ceremony demonstrates the pride and respect that we have come to expect of this group of seniors. Menomonee Falls High School has a reputation for producing a praise-worthy commencement ceremony. We want to continue this tradition of decorum and respect for the ceremony. I express my sincere congratulations to your family as you celebrate your graduate's accomplishments and look forward to Saturday, June 10th.

This year there are four major graduation activities:

1. **Senior Holiday**

Friday, May 19 – 6:30-11:00 p.m.

Davian's Banquet Center, 16300 Silver Spring Drive, Menomonee Falls

This activity allows the graduating seniors to share food and fun with each other in a relaxed setting. This evening is meant to be enjoyable, and we encourage every senior to attend. **This event is only open to current seniors from MFHS.** The cost of the event is \$40.00/senior. Seniors may purchase tickets from Ms. Kiefer, senior class advisor, beginning Monday, May 8TH during all lunch periods. Tickets can be purchased up to Friday, May 12TH. The Senior Holiday is chaperoned by school personnel and is an official school-sponsored function. *Therefore, all school rules are in effect.* Please be advised that any serious infraction of school policy will result in disciplinary action and may eliminate a student from participation in commencement. **Dress is business casual (no jeans or t-shirts or shorts).**

2. **Senior Scholarship Awards Program**

Wednesday, May 24th – 7:00-10:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium

Seniors who are graduating with honors and those receiving scholarships will be recognized for their accomplishments in the areas of scholarships, awards, and post-secondary plans. Please encourage your child to dress more formally for this occasion. Casual attire is discouraged. If you and your child are invited to the program, we encourage you to attend and to send a letter of thanks to the Menomonee Falls Scholarship Foundation.

3. **Commencement Practice**

Friday, June 9th – 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Seniors report to assigned classroom

All students intending to participate in the commencement ceremony **must** participate in the scheduled practice and observe the established behavior and dress guidelines (see #4). Commencement practice will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m. with students reporting to their assigned classroom (rosters will be posted around school – any questions, see Mr. Woosenraft). **A pizza lunch will be provided in the**

cafeteria at the end of the rehearsal for all of the graduating seniors. Those seniors interested in going back to their elementary schools, we will leave after 1:00 p.m.

4. **Commencement Ceremony**
Saturday, June 10th – 4:00 p.m.
Schumann Stadium

The commencement ceremony will last approximately one hour and forty minutes. Students need to report to their assigned classroom by 3:00 p.m. Our goal is to continue the tradition of having the ceremony in the stadium. If the weather does not look like it is going to cooperate, the ceremony will be moved inside and held in the Main Gymnasium. A decision will be made by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 9th, and a phone message will be sent. If the ceremony is held inside, each graduate will be given **four** tickets for commencement. The tickets will be distributed during the graduation practice on June 9th. **Please do not request additional tickets. Four tickets per graduate will put us at capacity. We are unable to replace lost tickets. All children and adults must have a graduation ticket in order to enter the gymnasium.**

The gates to the Stadium/doors to the Gymnasium will open at 3:00 p.m. for guests.

We do require graduates to dress appropriately for this ceremony. **Males are required to wear dress pants, collared shirt, and a tie. Females are to wear a dress, skirt and blouse, or dress pants and blouse. Shorts and t-shirts are not allowed. Both men and women are to wear dress shoes. Athletic, Crocs, gym, flip flops, work, or jogging shoes will not be allowed.** In addition, balloons will not be allowed in the building or with graduates during the ceremony.

The Senior Class has arranged for a photographer (**Empire Photography**) to take individual pictures at the time each graduate receives his/her diploma. About a week after the ceremony, you'll receive complimentary proofs by mail from which you can order quality photo enlargements.

ALL graduates are required to stay until the completion of the ceremony.

****Immediately following the ceremony, graduates will report to the new gym to pick up their diplomas. If the graduate is unable to pick up the diploma after the ceremony, the graduate can pick up their diploma in the main office the following week.****

PLEASE NOTE: Seating will be available for individuals with disabilities, accompanied by one additional family member. We are unable to accommodate entire families in this section especially if the ceremony is held inside. ***Please notify Mr. Woosencraft IN WRITING by Thursday, May 18th if this seating is needed.*** If indoors, guests will be admitted to this section by using one of the allotted four tickets.

A serious note of caution must be added:

- **All students must still earn sufficient credits in order to graduate and participate in commencement.** We have done our best to keep parents and seniors informed about their credit status and attendance. By 4:00 p.m. on Thursday June 8th, a final decision by administration will be made regarding participation in the ceremony. Please make sure to monitor your child's academic progress and attendance, if attendance is not cleaned up, your student will not walk at graduation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call your student's guidance counselor:

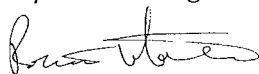
<u>Counselor Name</u>	<u>Part of the Alphabet</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Ms. Hanley	A-Fi	946-2356
Mr. Taylor	Fl-La	946-2325
Ms. Schuster	Le-Ri	946-1021
Ms. Thom	Ro-Z	946-2405

- **Menomonee Falls High School does not condone any type of skip day.** At times, students get caught up in the excitement of graduation and become involved in behavior that is inappropriate. The problem with this type of activity is that those who can least afford to miss school are usually the ones to be truant, and many times, take underclassmen with them. Each year, newspapers report human tragedies that mar graduation. Your continued support and vigilance will help us avoid such an incident.
- **We are strongly opposed to any senior pranks.** So many times, we have seen some activities of this type begin as a joke and end in substantial property damage, school disruption, or loss of personal property. Students who engage in activities of this sort will be subject to school discipline including exclusion from commencement.

Earning a high school diploma is a milestone in a person's life, whether planning to serve in the military, to enter the world of work, to engage in technical training, or to enroll in college or other post-secondary options. Our commencement ceremony is formal in nature and, therefore, deserving of behavior consistent with the event. Guests are expected to respect the formal nature of the ceremony and stay until its completion. Please discuss with your graduate our expectations for appropriate behavior during our commencement ceremony. It is a time when so many have so much for which to be thankful; and it is unfair, as well as disrespectful, for anyone to behave in a way that distracts from the purpose of the ceremony. Please be advised that we will, if necessary, remove students from the program for inappropriate behavior.

I ask for your assistance in helping make this a memorable event for the graduates and their loved ones. Having known this class and many of their parents, I am confident that we will have a positive commencement week culminating with a dignified, orderly, and meaningful ceremony.

My sincere congratulations,



Robert Vitale
Principal