

**"Be bold,  
Be courageous,  
Be your best"**  
*Gabrielle Giffonds*



**Commencement** – a word of French origin which means beginning. Indeed, there is a good reason they call ceremonies, commencement exercises. Graduation is not the end it is the beginning.

The Sequoia Secondary School, as well as the Sequoia Deaf School, work hard every year to make the Commencement Ceremony one that commencement candidates and their families will take pride in. The ceremony takes place once a year, in May.

Commencement is a wonderful time at the Horne Campus and a very rewarding experience for not only our students but those of us who work here as well.

# Graduation Information

## GRADUATION FEE

This year we are requiring all graduating seniors to pay a \$25 graduation fee. The fee will be used for the graduation ceremony and programs. The graduation fee is due by March 30, 2020.

## SENIOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Every senior is expected to complete the Graduation Questionnaire by March 6th.

## SENIOR VIDEO COMMITTEE

An important part of the graduation program is the senior video. The Senior Video Committee will be responsible for taking and collecting pictures from senior class activities, as well as putting together the senior video that will be shown during the graduation ceremony.

## PERFORMING AT THE CEREMONY

We also want our musically inclined students to seriously consider performing at graduation, either in a musical number or the national anthem. Students who are interested in performing at graduation need to fill out the Graduation Questionnaire.

## GRADUATE PROFILES

We ask that all graduating seniors complete the Senior Questionnaire to share their future plans, and provide some details about their accomplishments. This information will be used to create profiles of our graduates, which we will display at graduation. Graduates who attend the ceremony may take a copy of their profile home with them.

## GRADUATION HONORS & AWARDS

**Valedictorian:** Medal

**Salutatorian:** Medal

**Blue:** Principal's List (3.5+)

**Gold:** Honor Roll (3.2-3.49)

**Purple:** Senior Leadership

**Grey:** Student Council

**Green:** Science Scholars

**Light Blue:** Ohana (Foreign Exchange Program)

**Lime Green:** Sequoia Deaf School

## Caps & Gowns

All seniors participating in the graduation ceremony will need to order a cap, gown, and tassel. National Graduation Products is our vendor for all of our graduation regalia. Mr. Monty Monteith will assist seniors with their orders. He will be on campus in the fall to meet with seniors.

The caps & gowns will be delivered to Sequoia at the beginning of May and distributed to students in mid-May. Graduates who have not ordered by March 1<sup>st</sup> will receive a letter in March from National Graduation Products with instructions and deadlines. Please direct all cap and gown questions to Mr. Monteith.

NATIONAL GRADUATION PRODUCTS  
Mr. Monty Monteith  
(602) 978-8169  
[www.nationalgraduationproducts.com](http://www.nationalgraduationproducts.com)



## Important Dates

### NOVEMBER

*National Graduation Products Meeting*  
*National Graduation Products Order date*

### February

**26th**- Cap & Gown Photos

### MARCH

**2nd** - Reminder letters for cap & gown orders mailed home

### MAY

**4th**- Graduation tickets available

**18<sup>th</sup>** - 1 pm Graduation Rehearsal  
**DUE:** Valedictorian & Salutatorian speeches

**20<sup>th</sup>** - 10:30-11:15 AM Graduation Walk Through  
11:30 Senior Lunch

**21st - 7 pm Graduation**

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## GRADUATION TICKETS

Due to the size of this year's graduating class and the number of seats available, each graduate will be issued 12 guest tickets. Children under one year of age and graduates do NOT need tickets to enter. No ticket means no admittance to the ceremony. Seniors will receive their 10 tickets during the first week of May. **Note:** If you have received a "Notification of not graduating," you will not receive any tickets until you are no longer in danger of not graduating.

## GRADUATION REHEARSAL & WALKTHROUGH

Graduation rehearsal will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Rehearsal is MANDATORY for all seniors who have completed the graduation requirements. Graduation Walk Through will take place on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 – 11:40 am. After the walkthrough, we will be hosting a SENIOR LUNCH from 11:40 - 12:30 pm. Note: If you are not passing all of your classes by May 18<sup>th</sup>, you will not be permitted to walk, but can still graduate.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Prior to graduation, professional photographers will take pictures of our seniors in their caps and gowns. Students will take both individual and class pictures. These pictures will be offered to you at a reasonable price.

The photographer will begin taking pictures at 5:00 pm on graduation day in the gym. Please be on time so that your child will not miss the group and individual graduation pictures.

## ATTIRE

Seniors are asked to wear clothes that reflect the pride of a Sequoia student. Gentlemen should wear slacks and a collared shirt with dress shoes. Ladies, please do not wear jeans, shorts, flip-flops or athletic shoes. The administration reserves the right to remove inappropriately dressed seniors from the ceremony. If you are not sure about your intended outfit, please ask either of your senior advisors prior to graduation day. Prior to graduation lineup, Sequoia staff will be monitoring graduating seniors.

# Graduation Ceremony Information

## CEREMONY PROTOCOL

Graduation is an exciting and momentous event. It is an opportunity to celebrate achievements and look toward the future. We at Sequoia Schools are honored to be awarding you with your High School Diploma.

This event is a formal event which we are honored to host in your honor. As it is an important celebration we want to ensure that all of our guests are able to enjoy it fully. Therefore the following items will not be allowed into the venue:

- Noisemakers, bullhorns, air horns, of any kind
- Balloon bouquets (we will have a storage area nearby)
- Food and drinks (other than water)

We also ask that you and your family:

- Set cell phones and electronic devices to silent
- Remain in your seats for the ceremony



## Graduates Schedule May 21, 2020

**5:00 pm** - Individual Pictures in the GYM

*\*All graduates are required to have their pictures taken.*

**6:00 pm** - Class Pictures in the GYM

**6:30 pm** - Report to assigned rooms

**6:40 pm** - Doors opens for guests

**7:00 pm** - The processional begins in the GYM