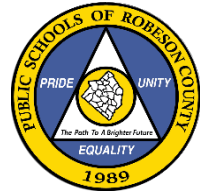


# Senior Commencement Information



Graduation ceremonies are a time of honor and celebration. This procedure manual will outline requirements, appropriate dress, and final checks prior to the graduation rehearsal. Your full cooperation will make this a memorable experience for the student, family, faculty and staff of the Public Schools of Robeson County.

## Graduation Rehearsal Etiquette

- Graduates should remain in line at all times and while remaining quiet so as not to interrupt the ceremony.
- Diplomas are awarded in alphabetical order and students graduate according to last name.
- **Balloons, gum, noisemakers, or signs** are **not** allowed in Givens Performing Arts or the AD Lewis Auditorium.
- Junior Marshals are to wear their sash/robes and escort the graduating class to the appropriate seating area as practiced.
- Seniors are to remain standing until the last student in your row has a designated chair there should be no empty seats left in the row.
- The senior walks across the graduation stage and receives the diploma cover with your left hand, leaving the right hand free to shake hands with all guests on stage.
- After all graduating seniors have received their diploma covers the Principal will declare you graduates of The Public Schools of Robeson County. All seniors will turn their tassel on the graduation cap from right to left.
- Cell phones are to be placed on airplane mode/silent mode or turned off during the ceremony.

## Regalia

All Public Schools of Robeson County graduating seniors are required to wear full regalia including a gown, cap, and tassel (cords, sashes, stoles, or medallions are reserved for honor graduates and honors distinction). If a proven hardship impedes one's ability to acquire the regalia, please reach out to your School Counselor or School Social Worker.

## Gowns

Schools have gowns distinguished by school colors and which should be neatly pressed with a cool iron or steamed using an alternative method such as a steam shower to assist with de-wrinkling. The collars of the gown for women should be sown; safety pinned or taped in place using the items received in the gown package. It is highly recommended to try the gown on a few days prior to graduation to ensure an acceptable fit.

**Graduates who do not wear appropriate attire will be removed from the lines and will not be allowed to participate in Commencement activities.**

**Attire for all graduates during commencement activities  
(Includes Senior Awards Night and Graduation Ceremony)**

**Women:**

1. Simple black dress pants or lightweight dress under graduation robe. Your dress should be shorter than the length of your gown (but in accordance to student dress code) so that it does not show beneath your gown.
2. Black shoes or black sandals. No tennis shoes, flip-flops (shower shoes) or boots should be worn.
3. Minimal jewelry
4. No purse or handbags, cameras, etc. Leave these items with family members.

**Men:**

1. White dress shirt and dark tie.
2. Dark dress pants blue or black. No blue jeans allowed.
3. Dark dress shoes and dark socks. You may not wear tennis shoes, boots, or sandals.

**Caps**

All caps should be parallel to the ground and worn straight on the head. Women should plan hairstyles in advance to accommodate a top of cap position that is flat with the floor.

**No decorations will be allowed at any time on the caps!**

**Tassel**

The tassel provided with the gown at the time of purchase is to **ONLY** be worn on the right side of the cap by all seniors. **All tassels from other vendors are prohibited.**

**Cords, Stoles & Medallions**

Honor graduates can wear cords that have been provided by the school **ONLY**. **(Colors may vary according to school)**

**White cord:** Cum Laude

**Burgundy cord:** Magna Cum Laude

**Yellow cord:** Summa Cum Laude

**Red White & Blue cord:** National JROTC

**White Stole:** National JROTC (6 semesters with a 3.0 GPA)

**Purple & Silver Cord:** National Technical Honor Society

**Light Blue:** Career & College Ready (WorkKeys)

**White Collar:** National Honor Society

**Gold Stole:** National Beta Club

**Light Blue Stole:** National Beta Club

**Medallion:** NC Scholars Endorsement & Indian Education Association

**Gold Tassel & Gold Sash:** Phi Theta Kappa (Robeson Community College- Collegiate Honor Society)

**National Art Honor Society**

**National FFA Organization**

## Calendar of Events - 2020

Date	Time	School	Location
Thursday, April 30, 2020	11:30 am	NC Scholars Luncheon	
		Senior Awards	
Tuesday, May 12, 2020	6:00 pm	Driven 2 Excel Giveaway	
		Senior Day	
		Final Exams	
Wednesday, May 27, 2020		Final notification of non-graduation (Summer Graduates)	
		Graduation Practice Distribution of graduation tickets ( <b>all fees must be cleared to a \$0 balance</b> )	
Wednesday, May 20, 2020	11:00 am	Early College High School	RCC
Friday, May 29, 2020	12:00 am	Fairmont High School	RCC
	10:00 am	Lumberton High School	LSHS
	1:00 pm	Purnell Swett High School	UNCP
	9:00 am	Red Springs High School	RCC
	9:00 am	St. Pauls High School	UNCP

### Tickets

Schools are provided with an average of tickets per graduate based on seating capacity and graduation totals. This total can fluctuate yearly and ensures space for every graduate. There will be fewer seats than the listed building capacity to accommodate faculty and staff. (Seniors who fail to assume full financial responsibility **WILL NOT** receive graduation tickets and cannot participate in the graduation activities until all balances are cleared to a \$0 balance.)

### Commencement Practice

Pay close attention to instructions during the commencement practice so that we can make the rehearsal go smoothly. During practice, your name will be read to ensure correct pronunciation. Graduation tickets will be distributed during graduation rehearsal. **Commencement practice is mandatory.**

### Seating

Tickets are general admission and are not assigned to specific sections, rows, or seats. Seating is available on a first come, first serve basis.

### Security

At the request of the Public Schools or Robeson County, all graduation guests will go through a security checkpoint prior to entering the auditorium. We encourage you to keep all bags and gifts in your car for faster entry times. Make accommodations to leave early to get through security prior to the ceremony start time.

### Code of Conduct

Formal ceremonies are a time to acknowledge our graduates' hard work. We encourage families and guests to be respectful of the other families and guests who want to share in this day with our graduates. The following items are not permitted during the graduation ceremony: balloons, flowers, confetti, silly string, sound makers, signs, posters or items that can be thrown inside the auditorium. Remain seated until all seniors and dignitaries have exited the auditorium.

**Please respect the dignity deserved for all seniors on this occasion by remaining quiet during the ceremony. Every parent wants to hear the name of his or her graduate.**

**Participation in graduation is not a guaranteed right, it is a privilege. The Principal reserves the right to refuse student participation in any graduation event if conduct at school is not maintained at a high level of excellence.**