



LEANDER HIGH

WORLD SCHOOL • ECOLE DU MONDE • COLEGIO DEL MUNDO

Tiffany Spicer, Principal

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May 2016

Dear Seniors and Parents/Guardians,

The time is quickly approaching for the graduation of the Class of 2016 from Leander High School. Graduation is an exciting and important event for our seniors and their families. Our goal this year, as always, is to have a well-organized and dignified ceremony to honor our seniors.

In an effort to give each of you some advance information, I have included some important details listed below. I hope you will find this information helpful as we get closer to graduation.

When

Graduation is scheduled for 8:00 a.m., Thursday, June 2, 2016.

Where

The Cedar Park Center is at 2100 Avenue of the Stars, which is at the intersection of 183A and New Hope Road. There are no tickets, no reserved seating, and no limit to how many can attend. There is seating for just under 6,000, and CPC does not allow people to save seats.

Monies or Textbooks

Seniors are responsible for taking care of any outstanding debts prior to graduation, including library fines or books not returned, textbooks, books or items owed to teachers, uniforms, outstanding fees, or any other item or money owed to LHS, faculty or staff. These will be noted on the chairs at graduation practice. Failure to clear these items before graduation will result in the diploma being held.

Graduation Practice

Practice for graduation is **mandatory** and will take place promptly at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 1, 2016, in the Competition Gym. In case of a conflict, only Ms. Spicer can give permission to be absent from practice. No caps and gowns are needed for practice. Students eligible for Texas Scholars will receive their medal at practice and will be responsible for bringing the medal to wear at graduation on Thursday. Replacement medals will not be available.

Student Transportation

All students must ride on buses to the Cedar Park Center.

School buses will transport students to the Cedar Park Center from Leander High. All students must ride the buses to ensure maximum organization and minimal confusion.

Graduation Day Schedule

5:30 a.m. – Students should arrive at LHS with cap and gown, and report to the competition gym for final practice. (Be on time)

6:45 a.m. – Students will begin boarding the buses.

7:05 a.m. (sharp) – Buses leave LHS

After graduation has been completed, students may ride home with family and/or friends. One bus will come back to LHS if anyone needs to return.

Student Dress

We want our students to look their best at this very important event; therefore, **Girls** are expected to wear a dress or dress slacks and blouse under their gown (**no jeans**). **Boys** are expected to wear dress pants, collared shirts and ties under the gown (**no jeans**). Caps and gowns cannot be modified in any way.

Shoes

Students should wear footwear appropriate for a dress occasion. **No** sandals, flip flops and tennis/running shoes. Boys should wear socks with their shoes. Because there are rather steep ramps on and off the stage, girls might want to avoid super high heels. Remember, this is being filmed and is shown on the jumbo-tron.

What to bring on the bus

Students are responsible for bringing their caps and gowns with them. Personal belongings should not be brought on the bus. If something must come with you (i.e., keys, tiny purse, etc.) it will be placed in a box in a holding room and returned after you have picked up your diploma. You cannot have anything with you during the ceremony. No phones or electronics of any kind. Please leave balls, beach balls or any/all distracting items at home. Students who violate this rule run the risk of not “walking” at graduation or having their diploma held for an indeterminate time.

Parent/Guest Seating & Parking

Parking is available immediately adjacent to the Cedar Park Center. Seating for family and friends is on a first come, first served basis, and there is no limit to the number of guests who may attend. This year the CPC will have metal detectors for everyone to enter the premises. The mobility-impaired entrance is located on the southwest end of the Cedar Park Center, or mobility-impaired guests can be dropped off and meet their parties after the vehicle is parked. There is a \$5.00 fee per car to park.

Meeting your graduate after the ceremony

After the ceremony, graduates will be directed to another area to pick up their diplomas, then will exit the building to the flag pole area located on the east end of the Cedar Park Center. Graduates are free to leave at any point after exiting the building.

What should parents bring

Parents, family and friends may bring cameras and video devices. We have arranged for a professional photographer, *Photo Texas*, to take pictures of your son/daughter on the stage, and there will be a videographer who will video the ceremony. Please do not bring signs, banners, air horns, or other noisemakers. Cedar Park Center security will be present and will confiscate such items. Also, in keeping with our desire to have a dignified ceremony, we ask that these devices not be used.

Project Graduation

This important drug/alcohol free event will be on Thursday, June 2 at Austin Park and Pizza from 11:00 p.m. to Friday, June 3 at 5 a.m. Graduates will be transported to and from the event by LISD buses. Buses will leave LHS promptly at 10:30 p.m. and arrive back at LHS at 5:30 a.m. **All students participating in Project Graduation MUST ride the bus to and from the event.** The event is sponsored by the senior parents and will provide fun, games, food, and prizes. We hope all of our seniors will choose to attend this drug/alcohol free event as a way to celebrate their important achievement.

Senior Awards Night

This special event will be held at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 17, 2016, in the Performing Arts Center on our campus. This is an opportunity to recognize the many achievements of our seniors and announce local scholarships.

Texas Scholars

A Texas Scholar is a student who has academically challenged themselves while in high school to graduate on either the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement Graduation Plan. A gold medal signifies a Texas Scholar who has a Program of Study, meets the Texas Success Initiative Testing requirements, and has completed two courses eligible for college credit. The silver medal is for those Texas Scholars who have completed two courses eligible for college credit, but do not have a Program of Study. Medals are distributed at graduation practice to wear at the graduation ceremony.

Pick Up of Diplomas

Diplomas will be picked up right after the graduation ceremony at the Cedar Park Center. It is strongly advised that all graduates pick up their diplomas at the CPC. It takes 20 minutes to distribute diplomas to everyone, plus returning phones, keys, etc. If you have to pick it up later, email Ms.McClain at Terri.McClain@leanderisd.org.

Report Scholarships Offered

Each year we collect all money **offered** to the class in grants, work study and scholarships, regardless of whether the student plans to accept the offer or not. Please report this to Nancy.Byers@leanderisd.org. Indicate the schools, the total amount offered per school, and which school the student will attend by end of day May 11th. These will be listed in the graduation program and the total for the class announced.

Order Final Transcripts

The final piece of college admission is the final transcript. While these won't be ready until late June, you cannot start school in the fall until your college has this final one. So before school is out, go to Parchment and put in your order for the Final Transcript (end of semester). It will be sent when they are ready. LHS website, scroll down, click on 'Request My Transcript.'

A calendar of upcoming senior events is attached for quick reference. I hope this letter answers some of your questions regarding graduation. We are working hard to insure that our students, their families and friends have the kind of graduation they deserve and can be proud of.

If you have further questions you may call me or my secretary, Debbie Patek, at 512-570-1011.

Sincerely,

Tiffany T. Spicer

Tiffany T. Spicer
Principal

Attachment

Senior Calendar May - June 2016

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Monday	May 2	IB Exams Begin	Various	Various
Monday	May 2	AP Exams	Various	Various
Tuesday	May 17	Senior Awards	PAC	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	May 19	Caps & Gowns Delivered	Atrium	during all lunches
Monday	May 23	BAD WEATHER MAKE-UP DAY/NO SCHOOL		
Wednesday	May 25	Senior Final Exams	Periods 7 & 8	Full day for seniors
Thursday	May 26	Senior Final Exams	Periods 3 & 4	Full day for seniors
Friday	May 27	Senior Final Exams	Periods 5 & 6	Dismiss @ 12:45
Monday	May 30	STUDENT/TEACHER HOLIDAY		
Tuesday	May 31	Senior Final Exams	Periods 1 & 2	Dismiss @ 12:45
Wednesday	June 1	Graduation Practice (Mandatory)	Competition Gym	9:00 a. m.
Thursday	June 2	All Graduates arrive at LHS (One final practice)	Competition Gym	5:30 a.m. be prompt Buses leave @ 7:05a
Thursday	June 2	Graduation	Cedar Park Center	8:00 a.m.
Thursday	June 2	Project Graduation	Austin Park & Pizza	11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m Buses depart LHS at 10:30 p.m. and will return to LHS at 5:30 a.m. June 3.