

April 1, 2012

TO PARENTS OF GRADUATING SENIORS:

Congratulations on the graduation of your senior. The administration and faculty of Chamblee Charter High School are extremely proud of the Class of 2012. This is a mile stone in each student's life, as well as a significant moment in yours. Many parents and senior students have been planning this celebration for several months. We want to let you know some of the details as you are making family plans for graduation activities. This letter will provide you with all the information you will need as well as a timeline for senior activities over the next two months. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Amy Branca at Amy_K_Branca@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us or Mr. Kurt Koeplin at Kurt_Koeplin@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

SENIOR HONORS CONVOCATION – Sunday, May 20th 2:00 in Chamblee Gymnasium

Seniors will be honored at the Senior Honors Convocation. All seniors are invited. Seniors are to wear their graduation gown and appropriate formal dress underneath. **No graduation cap is needed.** Although instructions included in your gown packet may describe a collar, do not worry about it because we do NOT use these collars at Chamblee. NOTE: To remove wrinkles from gowns, use a cool setting on iron (such as acetate or rayon setting) or steam in bathroom. The awards ceremony is in the gym with a reception to follow in the cafeteria. Bulldog Bash tickets will be on sale at the reception. Seniors will also receive their yearbooks if they purchased one.

SENIOR EXAMS – Mon, May 21st (periods 1,5 ,7), Tues, May 22nd (periods 2,6), Wed, May 23rd (periods 3,4), Senior Dismissal: Wed, May 23rd 12:35

Seniors that qualify to exempt exams can pick up exemption forms from Ms. Beacham's office. Exemption form must be turned in to Ms. Beacham by Thurs, May 17th. **No late forms will be accepted.**

SENIOR POOL PARTY – Wed, May 23rd 1:00-3:45 at Twin Lakes Pool

Seniors will be released from school on Wednesday at 12:35 following their final exams. There will be a pool party for all interested seniors from 1:00 until 3:45 at Twin Lakes pool. Permission slips with driving directions to the pool will be distributed through

English classes, and extras will be available in the front office. Students must provide their own transportation. A permission slip signed by a parent/legal guardian is required for entry. No outside food or drink will be allowed, so eat before you come!

GRADUATION PRACTICE – Thursday, May 24th 2:30-4:30 in Chamblee Cafeteria

Graduation practice is Thursday, May 24th and is mandatory for any senior who wishes to participate in graduation. Practice will last at least 2 hours. **Your senior will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony unless she/he attends the respective practice or is excused by Dr. Lowery.** Two tickets will be given to each senior at the end of practice. They will only be needed if there is inclement weather and the ceremony is moved to the gym.

GRADUATION GUESTS NEEDING HANDICAP SEATING

Please e-mail Mr. Kurt Koeplin at Kurt_Koeplin@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us the name(s) of guests that are attending graduation that will need handicap seating, as well as the name of ONE escort that will assist that individual and be seated with them. Include first and last names of both individuals. This list will be given to the security personnel, and only those on the list will be permitted to access this seating area. **Names must be submitted by 3:30 pm Thursday, May 24** so that accommodations can be made.

GRADUATION

Please remember that graduation ceremonies will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, May 25. Graduation will take place at North DeKalb Stadium and all are welcome to come. Please note, however, that in case of inclement weather, graduation will be held in the CCHS gymnasium and tickets are required. There will be only **TWO tickets per graduating senior. Seniors must arrive at Chamblee High School no later than 4:45 p.m. Keep in mind that traffic will be a factor because of Friday rush hour.** Please plan accordingly and leave plenty of time for travel to Chamblee and **find parking**. Because of construction, parking will be **extremely limited**. Carpool with other families in your neighborhood if possible.

Graduation should be a most inspiring occasion. It is my desire to have Chamblee Charter High School seniors commence the next phase of their lives with dignity, befitting the high expectations that I hold for them. I am sure you, as parents, join me in that wish.

In the past, some graduation exercises have not reflected the high standards of our student body. Therefore, to achieve the appropriate atmosphere, we have informed the senior class that **any disruption of these services will necessitate the immediate termination of the ceremony.** Diplomas will be held and distributed at a later date if termination becomes necessary. Any student, graduate or non-graduate, who disrupts these exercises will be subject to disciplinary action since these are school functions. Any individual who reports to any of the scheduled activities under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or who

is found to be in possession of drugs, alcohol and/or disruptive devices or items, shall not be allowed to participate in the services and will face disciplinary action as required by the DeKalb County School District Disciplinary Brochure.

In an effort to maintain the dignity of the occasion, we are asking for your cooperation in the following areas:

1. Please hold all applause until the last graduate's name has been called so that each individual's name can be heard.
2. Please do not leave your seat to take pictures. A professional photographer, Sure Shot Photography, has been hired to take pictures of everyone receiving a diploma. The proofs can be reviewed at MyGradPhotos.com. You will only need to locate our school to review your proof and place your order. All guests attending the services are asked to dress appropriately. No one will be allowed in the stadium without shoes or appropriate attire.
3. **Your senior will not be allowed to participate in graduation unless she/he attends the Thursday afternoon practice or is excused by Dr. Lowery.**
4. **Seniors are to dress in proper attire for the graduation services:** Do not wear corsages or decorate your gown or your cap in any way. Place your cap flat on your head – not tilted back. Although instructions included in your gown packet may describe a collar, do not worry about it because we do NOT use these collars at Chamblee. Note – to remove wrinkles from gowns, use a cool setting on iron (such as acetate or rayon setting) or hang and allow to steam in bathroom.
5. Only approved stoles, cords, and tassels are permitted to be worn with cap and gown.

Men: Wear a white dress shirt with a collar and dark tie, and trousers or slacks (NO SHORTS or JEANS). Wear dark dress shoes (NO ATHLETIC SHOES OR SANDALS).

Ladies: Wear a dress that is shorter than your gown. Solid colors are best. If your dress is longer than your gown, pin it up. Wear nice flats, wedges, or dress sandals, as often the field is damp and pumps or heels may sink into the ground. Girls have fallen because they wore the wrong shoes.

After the ceremony, seniors will return to the 11th grade hall to receive their diplomas.

Guests will not be permitted to enter the building. Therefore, **pre-arrange** a location (your car, the flag pole, tennis courts) to meet your graduate after they receive their diploma.

BULLDOG BASH – May 25th-26th

We are continuing a wonderful tradition, begun in 1995 at Chamblee High School, involving the entire senior class. Bulldog Bash is an all-night, drug-free, alcohol-free lock-in on graduation night. Last year about 85% of the seniors in the Class of 2011 participated in Bulldog Bash and made lasting memories of that special night in a well-chaperoned, safe, fun, and substance-free environment. High school graduation should be

a joyous milestone, not marred by accidents, which can occur when graduates celebrate where alcohol and drugs are available.

Bulldog Bash guidelines, including a parental permission form, are included with this letter. Some of the highlights of this special graduation night party for seniors only are the following:

PLACE: Chamblee cafeteria (enter through cafeteria doors only)

COST: \$15 per senior through May 20; \$20 on May 24

ARRIVAL TIME: 11:00 pm-Midnight, Friday, May 25

ENDING TIME: 6:00 am, Saturday, May 26

WHO: Chamblee's Class of 2012 ONLY

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Food/music and dancing with a DJ | Adult chaperones (parents and staff) |
| Basketball/swimming/volleyball/games | Comedy improv by "Laughing Matters" |
| Quiet room for rest and yearbook signing | Caricaturist, door prizes and more |

Bulldog Bash Ticket Sales:

Tickets must be purchased prior to the night of the event. NO TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR ON EVENT NIGHT. Tickets will be available for \$15 every day during lunch the week of May 14th, and at the Senior Honors Reception. The last chance to buy tickets is at the graduation practice and they will be \$20. Please complete the parental permission form enclosed. Both parent/guardian and student must sign the form. The form must be turned in when your student purchases a ticket to Bulldog Bash.

Please keep this letter handy and refer to it often. Again, congratulations Class of 2012!

Sincerely,

Rochelle Lowery, Ed. D.
Principal

HANDY TIMELINE REFERENCE

| Date | Time | Description |
|---|--|---|
| Prior to April 27 th | | Clear all Financial Obligations. Students will not receive cap and gown until all obligations are cleared, including dues of \$150, media center fines or lost textbooks. (CASH ONLY) |
| Friday, April 27 th | At lunch and after school | Distribution of Cap and Gowns – Media Center Hallway |
| Monday, May 14 th through Friday, May 17 th | At Lunch | Bulldog Bash Tickets on Sale for \$15- Completed Parental Permission Form required to purchase ticket |
| Sunday, May 20 th | 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. | Seniors report to 11 th grade hall <u>Senior Honors Convocation</u> – gym Reception to follow in cafeteria Bulldog Bash tickets on sale for \$15 - Completed Parental Permission Form required to purchase ticket |
| Monday, May 21 st | 8:15-3:20 | Seniors report to classes all day Senior Exams – Periods 1,5,7 |
| Tuesday, May 22 nd | 8:15-3:20 | Seniors report to classes all day Senior Exams – Periods 2,6 |
| Wed., May 23 rd | 8:15-12:35 12:35 1:00-3:45 | Senior Exams – Periods 3,4 Seniors Released for the day <u>Senior Pool Party</u> – Twin Lakes Pool |
| Thurs., May 24 th | 2:30-4:30 | <u>Graduation Practice</u> in Cafeteria Last Chance to Buy Bulldog Bash Tickets - \$20 Completed Parental Permission Form required to purchase ticket |
| Friday, May 25 th | 4:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 11:00- midnight | Seniors report to designated room on 11 th grade hall in their caps and gowns <u>GRADUATION CEREMONY</u> – North DeKalb Stadium (if inclement weather, held in CCHS gym, 2 tickets per graduating senior) Check in for Bulldog Bash, all night drug-free, alcohol-free graduation party/lock-in at CCHS |
| Saturday, May 26 th | 6:00 a.m. | Promptly depart from Bulldog Bash |