



# KEMPSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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Every Kempsville High School student is an inspired, active learner who creates positive change.

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*Assistant Principal*

Mr. Darryl L. Johnson  
*Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Melissa S. George  
*Principal*

Mrs. Caitlin R. Stravino  
*Assistant Principal*

Ms. Meghan A. Timlin  
*Academy Coordinator*

May 1, 2019

Dear Parents and Graduating Seniors:

Congratulations! The faculty and administration are extremely proud of the **Class of 2019** and look forward to the graduation ceremony scheduled for **Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.** at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

The graduation exercise is a solemn ceremony requiring that both graduates and guests conduct themselves with dignity and in a manner that respects all. We have established a tradition that graduation is an occasion to honor seniors and recognize their achievement. To allow for traffic considerations and security procedures and to avoid noisy movement in the bleachers, we ask guests to please arrive no later than 1:00 p.m. and remain seated until the recessional is complete. At the conclusion of the ceremony, families will be able to meet their graduate in front of the Convention Center.

The following information concerning graduation practice and graduation is being provided for your convenience. Please review the dates and times carefully.

## GRADUATION PRACTICE INFORMATION

1. Graduation practice is scheduled for **Monday, June 10 from 2:15 p.m.- 3:45 p.m.** at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Attendance is mandatory in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.
2. Seniors should report to the area **outside** the Convention Center Ballroom by **2:15 p.m.** on the practice day, **June 10**, to receive seating assignments. Due to ongoing construction, plan to arrive at **2:00 p.m.** to allow yourself time to park.
3. All seniors will report to the Ballroom **after** receiving their seating assignments.
4. Beginning promptly at 2:30 p.m., detailed instructions about the ceremony will be given in the meeting room.
5. Practice will last approximately 1 ½ hours. Students are required to stay for the entire practice. **Any student who fails to attend practice or stay for the entire practice will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.**
6. Cap, gown and diploma cover cost is **\$38** total and must be purchased from Jostens. Cap and gowns may be purchased at the Jostens store located at 464 S. Independence Blvd. Suite C 112, Virginia Beach, VA, starting May 20 – May 31. Please e-mail [eric.harvell@jostens.com](mailto:eric.harvell@jostens.com) or text (757) 705-2434 with any questions. Honor graduates may purchase honor stoles (\$12) and tassels (\$8) at practice. Policy requires that all students participating in graduation wear a cap and gown and appropriate dress. See your adviser regarding honor society items. **\*Jostens will accept cash only**
7. Virginia Beach City Public Schools has established a set number of graduation tickets for each school. Based on this allotment, **each student will receive eight (8) tickets with an option to request no more than an additional four (4).** The form to request (4) extra tickets will be available during ticket distribution. Return all requests to Miss Felts.

8. Notification of past due monetary obligations will be made prior to graduation. Outstanding obligations are expected to be settled by June 11, 2019; checks should be made payable to Kempsville High School and include the student's name and the check writer's phone number. Students who have outstanding obligations may not be eligible to receive the additional tickets at practice. Once obligations have been settled, however, additional tickets may be issued.

#### **GRADUATION CEREMONY INFORMATION**

1. Graduation will be at **1:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, June 12** at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Students are expected to be seated in their assigned seats in the Ballroom by **12:30 p.m.** Due to ongoing construction, parking is limited and parking passes (3) will be provided to each student prior to the graduation ceremony.
2. Students are required to dress appropriately for the graduation exercises. Appropriate dress for each male student includes a collared dress shirt, tie, dress slacks, dress shoes, and matching dress socks. Each female student should wear a dress or a blouse with a skirt or dress pants, and dress shoes appropriate for climbing stairs and walking across the stage. Students will not be allowed to carry anything into the assembly hall nor adorn their gown or hat in any way. Purses, cameras, cell phones, flowers, and corsages cannot be carried or left in the meeting rooms because students will not be permitted to return to the meeting rooms after graduation.
3. Students are reminded that School Board Regulation 5-45 prohibits the illegal use, possession, or distribution of drugs and intoxicants on school property, or in connection with any school activity. Students who violate this policy will be removed from the graduation ceremony.
4. Lifetouch Studios will take individual digital pictures of seniors receiving their diploma. The pictures will be available for purchase. Guests will be asked to remain in their seats throughout the ceremony. When photos are ready, an email with a link to <https://events.lifetouch.com/> will be sent to the email address on file with Lifetouch.
5. The ceremony will be live streamed on the [www.vbschools.com](http://www.vbschools.com) website and available on YouTube afterwards.
6. Removal of a student from the graduation ceremony for any reason will not be grounds for any refund for caps, gowns, tassels, or announcements.
7. All guests will be required to present a ticket to gain admission to graduation.
8. Seating for handicapped guests and/or senior citizens will be available on the main floor of the Convention Center. Special arrangements can be made for the hearing impaired, and signing for deaf guests can be provided. Please contact Mr. Wolf at the school by **June 4** if you need auditory assistance.
9. Any student who does not participate in the graduation ceremony may pick up his/her diploma on Monday, June 17 in the school counseling office.
10. In keeping with the dignity of this event, guests are asked to refrain from cell phone use or text messaging during the graduation ceremony.
11. Included with this letter is a letter from School Administration explaining the security measures and regulations that will be in effect at the Convention Center. We ask for the cooperation of graduates and guests with these measures.

As we approach these last weeks of school, let me remind each student to continue to make the best of his or her senior year. Every day in school is an opportunity to learn and improve. Remember to stay focused on schoolwork and plan ahead carefully to be ready for exams and the busy time ahead. Again, I extend my congratulations and appreciation to the Class of 2019 and look forward to sharing in this memorable celebration of achievement. Thank you in advance for your attention to these important dates and reminders.

Mrs. Melissa S. George,  
Principal