Pine Tree High School Graduation Ceremony

Pirate Stadium
Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 8:00 PM

Graduates report to the PTHS Pirate Center at 7:15 PM.

For more information, contact Caci Brinkley or Katy Rue at 903-295-5031.

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General Information

PTHS Graduation will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at Pirate Stadium on Loop 281. The ceremony will begin at 8:00 p.m. Graduating seniors need to arrive at Pine Tree High School by 7:15 p.m. and come to the Pirate Center. Seniors should arrive dressed appropriately with their caps and gowns. Seniors will be transported to Pirate Stadium by bus. Buses will also be available after the ceremony for graduates needing a ride back to the high school.

Graduation Practice

There will be a MANDATORY graduation practice on Thursday, May 23rd. Graduating seniors need to be seated in the Pine Tree High School Pirate Center on Thursday, May 23rd, by 8:20 a.m. Seniors MUST participate in practice in order to walk at graduation.

Pirate Stadium Information

- **SEATING** - Adequate seating will be available at Pirate Stadium. Currently there is no limit on the capacity of seating at the stadium. Wheelchair access in and around the stadium is excellent. Handicapped seating areas are clearly marked and offer a good view of the stage. The stage will face the field house on the south end of the stadium, so that all spectators will be able to see graduates. Seating and standing areas will also be available on the plaza at the north end of the home side. THERE WILL BE NO RESERVED SEATING AT GRADUATION. ALL SEATING WILL BE ON A FIRST COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS. SAVING SEATS FOR OTHERS IN THE STADIUM CHAIR BACK SECTION (BLUE AND GOLD SEATS) WILL BE PROHIBITED.

- **PARKING** - A large crowd is expected, so it is recommended that guests plan to arrive early to allow for traffic patterns and parking. Gates will open at **5:30 p.m.** Parking will be available at Pirate Stadium in both the home and visitor parking lots, and in lots at PT Middle School, PT Parkway School, and Lear Park. Shuttles will be available for guests who park farther away. Parking will be under the direction of stadium security and their instructions should be followed to ensure the smoothest possible flow of traffic.

- **PARKING FOR GRADUATING SENIORS** - Graduates will park in the student parking lot at Pine Tree High School. After graduation, graduates may either ride the bus back to PTHS or ride with family to pick up their vehicle at PTHS. Graduates will NOT be allowed to leave their personal vehicles at Pirate
Grades and Attendance
PTHS counselors and administrators will verify senior grades, STAAR test results, and attendance to determine that seniors are passing the requisite courses for graduation and to ensure that senior students are in compliance with Texas state law regarding compulsory school attendance. The principal or counselor will contact parents of those seniors who are in jeopardy of not graduating due to one of the guidelines indicated above.

Dress for Graduation
Gentlemen should wear a dress shirt with tie, dress pants and dress shoes. Ladies should wear dress attire. If students have questions or needs, please contact Coach Kraus or Mrs. Brinkley.

General graduation ceremony guidelines:
1) If the graduate has a cord and stole, the cord should be on top of the stole. All regalia/accessories worn by graduates at the ceremony must be school issued. No flags, bling, individualized messaging, etc.
2) Mortarboards are to be worn on the top of the head, parallel to the floor - NOT on the back of the head.
3) Textbooks MUST be returned and all fines paid in full before graduation.
4) No gum, candy, food or drinks are allowed at the rehearsal or ceremony.
5) Graduates will refrain from using cell phones for any purpose during the ceremony.
6) A photographer will be at graduation and take each graduate’s picture as he/she exits the stage.
7) Parent photography will be allowed from the parents’ or family members’ seats.
   • No tripods or photography will be allowed in front of the stage.
   • No one is allowed on the track or field at any time prior to or during the ceremony.
   Guests are asked to remain in the stands.
8) Anything that distracts from the ceremony will be confiscated (beach balls, air horns, etc.) and the person responsible for the distraction will be subject to removal from the premises.
9) Tassel begins on the right side of the mortarboard.

Walking Order
The graduates in the top ten percent will walk by rank order across the stage first followed by the remainder of the senior class in alphabetical order. Students who have finished in the top ten percent will receive a medallion commemorating this accomplishment at graduation practice. Seniors should wear the medallion at graduation.

Diplomas
Diplomas will be available to be picked up in the PTHS counseling center starting Friday, May 24th.

Inclement Weather
In the case of inclement weather, graduation will be held in the Pirate Center at PTHS. Graduates will be given 6 tickets for family/friends to attend the ceremony.

Cap, Gown & Picture Information:
Balfour Graduate Sales 903-757-6595
Croft Photography 903-399-9092