

High School East Seniors:

As we approach our commencement ceremony on Friday, June 26th, we are filled with immense pride for the Class of 2026. This milestone is a cornerstone of the Smithtown Promise, representing years of dedication, personal growth, and achievement. Our goal is to ensure that this graduation is a dignified, joyous, and seamless experience for every student and guest in attendance.

Graduation Packet & Obligations

- The Graduation Packet will be distributed next week and contains all pertinent details for this year's ceremony.
- Availability: Copies are available on the school website and in all four administrative offices.
- Returns: All school property (textbooks, library books, calculators, elevator keys) must be returned and any outstanding fines paid.
- Deadline: All obligations must be settled before a student can receive their cap, gown, or diploma. The deadline for completion is prior to the graduation rehearsal on Thursday, June 18th, at 8:30 a.m.
- Questions: Contact Central Admin.

Senior Grad Walk

- A cherished tradition, the Grad Walk, will take place on Monday, June 22nd.
- You will don their graduation regalia (to preserve the condition of your graduation day attire, please **do not wear your tassel** on your cap during the grad walks) and board buses to visit their former elementary schools.
- This is a powerful moment for our seniors to reconnect with past teachers and inspire the next generation.
- Prior to the Tuesday, June 16, 2026 deadline, please remind your senior to sign up via the [Senior Grad Walk Form](#).

Graduation Ceremony & Rehearsal

Thursday, June 18, 2026 (Rehearsal Day)

- Mandatory Rehearsal: 8:30 a.m. in the auditorium.
- Cap & Gown Distribution: Caps and gowns will be distributed immediately following the conclusion of this rehearsal.

Friday, June 26, 2026 (Graduation Day)

- Graduates must report to their assigned cafeterias at 3:30 p.m. to prepare for the processional.
- Commencement Ceremony: 5:00 p.m. on the football field. (Rain date: Saturday, June 27th, at 5:00 p.m.)

Commencement Ceremony Seating

To provide a fair and respectful environment for all our families, please take note of the following seating procedures for the ceremony:

- There will be no reserved seating for this year's ceremony. All seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The bleachers will be available, and you are also welcome to bring your own chairs for seating on the grass.
- To ensure our grounds team can complete final preparations for our graduates, individuals will not be permitted to access the Nicholas Schroeder Field to secure seats until 3:00 p.m.

- Please be advised that any items (blankets, chairs, tape, etc.) used to "reserve" spots prior to 3:00 p.m. will be removed. This procedure will be strictly enforced to maintain fairness for all families arriving at the designated time.

Parking & Accessibility

- Arrive early to secure on-site parking, as space fills quickly.
- Handicapped Parking: Reserved parking is located in the Woodlawn Avenue lot.
- To obtain a campus-issued handicap pass, your graduate must bring a note, along with a picture or photo copy of the pass, to Mrs. Wetstein in Central Administration, room 167 (631-382-2759).
- Please note that a state-provided handicap permit must also be displayed to enter the Woodlawn lot on graduation day.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the Class of 2026 for your hard work, resilience, and the positive culture they have fostered within the halls of High School East. I look forward to celebrating your achievements.



Paul E. McNeil, Principal

Smithtown High School East

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