

9751 98th Street North, Seminole, FL 33777 Phone: (727) 547-7717 FAX: (727) 545-6412 Website: www.osceola-hs.pinellas.k12.fl.us

SENIOR GRADUATION CEREMONY INFORMATION

All school financial obligations must be cleared prior to your approved participation in the graduation ceremony.

Date: Friday, May 30, 2025

Arrival Time: 6:30AM

Location: Clearwater Public Library

100 North Osceola Avenue, Clearwater, FL 33755

Ceremony Begins: 7:30AM

Location: The BayCare Sound at Coachman Park

255 Drew Street, Clearwater, FL 33755

PARKING

Please note that there is no parking available at the graduation venue or the nearby library. A map included in this packet outlines public parking lots in the area. These lots will charge for parking, and cash will not be accepted. Carpooling is strongly recommended. Shuttles will run every 30 minutes beginning at 6AM.

DRESS CODE

- Men should wear a white or light-colored shirt with a dark tie, dark trousers, dark socks, and dark dress shoes. Flip-flops are NOT permitted.
- Women should wear a dress or a top with a skirt or dress pants. Appropriate footwear is required—high heels are strongly discouraged due to the walking distance. Socks should be worn if the shoes require them. Sandals are allowed, but flip-flops are NOT permitted.
- Shorts are NOT allowed under any circumstances.
- Graduation caps may NOT be decorated. No flowers or jewelry may be worn on or over the gown.
- Only honor cords and stoles issued by OFHS or PCSB are permitted; items from outside organizations are NOT allowed.
- Each student will be checked for appropriate attire and appearance.
- No chewing gum or tobacco-related products are allowed.
- All cell phones, electronic devices, and purses must be left in the car.

You will not participate in the ceremony if you are in violation of the dress code.

CAPS AND TASSELS

- Caps must be worn flat on the head, with one point of the square facing forward (like a diamond).
- Tassels should be worn on the right side of the mortarboard at the start of the graduation ceremony.



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- Boys will remove their caps during the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem, and the Alma Mater.
- Girls will keep their caps on throughout the entire ceremony.
- Tassels will be moved to the left side by students in unison, as directed by Mr. Bohnet.

Caps are not to be thrown at any time.

CHECK IN PROCEDURE

- Enter through the main doors of the Clearwater Public Library (100 North Osceola Ave.) and check in with staff for a dress code and security screening.
 Reminder: You may not bring cell phones, electronic devices, or any items prohibited by PCSB rules past this point.
- 2. Go to the check-in table that matches the first letter of your last name (alphabetical order).
- 3. At check-in, you'll receive a card with your name on it. **KEEP THIS CARD!** You'll give it to the name reader when it's your turn to walk across the stage.
 - a. Check the information on your card to make sure it's correct.
 - b. If needed, write the phonetic spelling of your name above it to help the reader pronounce it correctly.
 - c. Line up in the order of the number on your card. If you're out of order, your family might miss your moment on stage.
- 4. Once you've checked your card, line up by the sign that matches the number on your card.

PROCESSIONAL

Line-Up for Processional: Begin lining up for entrance to The Sound by **7:10AM**. Line up according to the number on your name card. Staying in your assigned spot keeps you in alphabetical order and helps your guests know when to expect you to walk across the stage.

- Entering the Field: A faculty marshal will lead you to the field. You will walk side by side in two rows. As you approach the seating area, staff members will guide you to the next available seat once a row is full. Stay in line and keep a comfortable distance from the person in front of you. When you reach your seat, remain standing in your row and face the audience.
- **Ceremony Protocol:** Once everyone is in place in front of their seats, remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem, and the Alma Mater.

PROGRAM AGENDA

Programs will not be at your seat. You will be given programs when you pick up your diploma at the end of the ceremony. The agenda is as follows:



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Processional
Pledge of Allegiance
National Anthem
Alma Mater
Principal's Welcome & Introduction of Honored Guests
Salutatorian Address
Student Government President Address
Senior Class President Address
Valedictorian Address
Chorus Song
Presentation of Diplomas (covers only)
Conferring of Diplomas/Tassel Ceremony
Recessional

NAME PRESENTATION AND DIPLOMA COVER CEREMONY

- When it's time to receive diploma covers, the first row on each side facing the stage—beginning with the valedictorian—will rise at the signal from staff (assistant principals will be positioned on each side of the stage). You will then move toward the right side of the stage and proceed to the back. From there, you'll ascend the stairs to the stage.
- Hand your name card to Ms. Gucci and Mr. Dimaggio so they can announce your name.
 Walk to the center of the stage, receive your diploma cover from Mr. Bohnet in your left hand, shake with your right hand, and have your photo taken.
- After receiving your diploma cover, exit stage right. Continue shaking hands with any stage
 guests who are standing, then walk down the hallway as directed by staff, and return to your
 seat. Sit promptly to avoid blocking the view of those behind you.
 Rows on the right side of the field will be called first, followed by rows on the left, one at a
 time. All students will enter and exit on the right side of the stage.

RECESSIONAL

At the conclusion of the tassel presentation, the recessional will begin. Platform guests will exit the stage to the left and walk down the sidewalk. Staff will walk up the center aisle and follow behind the platform guests.

You will follow the staff in an orderly manner, beginning with the last row (furthest from the stage) and continuing in reverse order, from back to front. Staff members will be present to help release each row.

Please wait until the row in front of you has completely cleared before proceeding.

DIPLOMA PICK-UP

Staff will be stationed in the library, organized by the same alphabetical breakdown used during check-in. You should promptly retrieve your diploma and exit the building to meet your family.

Once you have your diploma, please proceed quickly and respectfully out of the building.

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CONCESSIONS

Not available to seniors.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Eat and drink appropriately before arriving. While restrooms and water fountains will be available, it can get warm, and we don't want anyone feeling faint or passing out.
- Do not bring signs, flowers, gifts, or air horns into the stadium.
- Bags are not permitted.
- Plan with your family about where to meet after graduation, before entering the library.
- The Sound is a paperless venue. After picking up your diploma, you will receive a bag of programs to share with your guests.
- There is plenty of guest seating, but it's recommended that your group sits together when everyone arrives, as venue staff will be condensing empty space. Saving seats is not allowed.
- Lawn seating is available; however, only blankets 60" x 30" are allowed. No folding chairs.
- Expect a longer walk than usual—be sure to wear comfortable shoes.

Note: There will be no food or drink vendors at the venue at any time before, during, or after the ceremony.

Graduates are expected to always maintain a dignified appearance. Any disruptive behavior will result in the student's removal from the field by law enforcement.