



717 South Harkness Street

Jackson, GA 30233

Telephone: 770-504-2340

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Congratulations to the class of 2022! This is truly an exciting and busy time for our seniors and their families. I want to take a moment to share some of our senior dates with you and any needed details. All of these events will be available on Facebook Live as well.

April 26th – Caps and Gowns will be distributed at JHS during lunch (11:14-1:06) by Scholastic Image.

May 13th – Academic Signing Day at the JHS Gym (1:45). All students that have turned their senior plan into the counseling office and have a confirmed destination post high school such as military, college, tech school, or job program will be celebrated with a signing day. Any and all family may attend this event to celebrate their child's accomplishment.

May 19th – Senior Honors Night at Rufus Adams Auditorium at 7:00 PM. All seniors that are honor graduates (3.7 GPA unweighted), those that are pathway completers by passing their End of Pathway Assessment, those seniors named for individual coursework awards, and/or any senior receiving a scholarship for less than \$1000.00 will be honored. Students who are being honored must attend rehearsal on May 19th at 10 A.M.

May 20th – Last academic day for Seniors at JHS, unless they still have coursework to complete.

May 22nd - Baccalaureate - 5 pm at First Baptist Church (non-mandatory)

May 26th – Graduation Rehearsal – 6:00 PM at Red Devil Hill (Mandatory)

May 27th – 9:00 AM Mandatory Dress Rehearsal at Red Devil Hill, Senior group picture, and elementary school walk. Senior picnic to follow at Red Devil Hill.

Those Seniors that do not participate in practice will NOT participate in the graduation ceremony.

May 27th – 7:30 PM – Graduation at Red Devil Hill - Seniors must be at the Rufus Adams Auditorium at 6:30 for line-up.

Update on Red Devil Hill – Many of you probably watched the demolition of Red Devil Hill back in November: the hauling and pushing around of lots of red clay, the rising of the two story structure, and the construction of our new stands. It is safe to say that we have all been a little nervous about the stadium construction meeting the timeline of graduation. Presently, the stands are up and ready, and the playing surface will begin being "turfed" this week. The two largest hurdles yet to be overcome are the installation of the video board during the first week in May and adjusting the new LED lights in order to properly light the stadium. It is safe to say that the stadium will be ready for graduation. The only part of the stadium that will not be ready is

Mr. Will Rustin, Principal

Sohmer McKibben, Alisha Pearce, Thomas Gochenour, Theresa Lubin - Assistant Principals

the underneath construction of the rest rooms. The plan all along has been that we will bring in portable restrooms that will be located outside of the stadium. I ask that you be flexible with us in that regard while we complete our construction.

GRADUATION CONTINGENCY PLANS for the Class of 2022

In the event that Mother Nature is not cooperating with our plans for a safe and sunny graduation on that Friday night for our deserving students in the Class of 2022, we may have to consider either a delay of the ceremony or postponing it until an alternate day.

On May 27th, we will monitor the weather until the last minute, and we will aim to make a decision on whether to delay or postpone graduation until around 5:00 PM on the Friday of graduation. If the rain is light, and there is little threat of lightning, we will proceed.

But if the threat of thunderstorms is too great and rain is heavy, we will put the safety of our students and guests first and postpone it until Saturday.

While we know that it is disappointing and frustrating (and sometimes downright inconvenient!) when the weather doesn't cooperate, let's work together, and ensure that our kids see how proud we are of them.

We cannot control the weather, but we can decide that we will celebrate and show our community pride regardless...RAIN OR SHINE! If we get wet or have to go into the gym, let's have a positive (and SAFE) time doing it and supporting our graduates.

Please see the weather contingency plan below:

--If it becomes necessary to postpone our ceremony to Saturday due to the threat of severe weather, our first option will be to hold graduation ceremonies in the stadium at Red Devil Hill on Saturday, May 28th, at 10:00 AM.

--If conditions have not improved, and we still need more time, our next option would be to hold the ceremony in the stadium at Red Devil Hill on Saturday, May 28th, at 2:00 PM.

--If weather conditions remain stormy in the afternoon, our next option will be in the stadium at Red Devil Hill on Saturday, May 28th, at 7:00 PM.

--It is POSSIBLE that if we see a "window" of opportunity on Friday or Saturday, we might propose a delay or adjusted schedule that might deviate from these published times. We would do this so that you have a higher chance of your family keeping a full 18 entry tickets and to have the ceremony in the stadium instead of the gym. If our parents will be willing to be flexible on times, we will try our best to have the graduation in the stadium *if* it is safe.

--Finally, if weather conditions do not improve throughout the day on Saturday, we will move the ceremony into the gymnasium on the JHS campus at 7 PM. We would most likely make a call on this about 3:00-4:00 PM on Saturday so that we have time to set up.

Please know that should we be forced to move the ceremony indoors, our seating capacity is far less than the stadium. Thus, if we move the graduation to the gym, each senior will be provided with FIVE (5) "rain tickets."

Thus, the eighteen (18) tickets that students were issued for the ceremony at Red Devil Hill will not be valid, and new tickets with a different color for the indoor ceremony will be issued to students on Saturday.

We recommend that each family go ahead and discuss this contingency, and plan ahead as to how they would distribute their student's five (5) tickets.

We will also conduct a Facebook LIVE feed of the graduation for family members who are not able to attend the ceremony. In preparation for that, we recommend that family members subscribe to Facebook and "Like" the Butts County Schools' Facebook Page.

We hope this information will be helpful as you plan family gatherings and celebrations around graduation. Again, it is our preference that we are able to facilitate a safe and enjoyable ceremony in the stadium at Red Devil Hill on Friday night.

Please contact me via email if you have any questions. Congratulations to the Class of 2022!

Sincerely,

Will Rustin

Principal

Jackson High School

rustinw@bcssk12.org