

As the 2016-17 school year rapidly approaches its end, we set our sights on the commencement ceremony for Bartlesville High School's Class of 2017. Scheduled to take place on Friday, May 26, 2017 at 8:00 p.m., Commencement will provide one final special moment in a school year which saw many.



Weather permitting, Commencement will be held at Custer Stadium on the high school campus. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved into the Bruin Fieldhouse.

On stage during the commencement events will be members of the Board of Education, BHS Principal LaDonna Chancellor, myself, and several other BHS and BPSD administrators. The graduation ceremony will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube.

As always, admission to the ceremony is free of charge, and everyone is invited to enjoy the event. General admission seating is available throughout the stands at Custer Stadium. Graduating seniors will be seated on chairs on the field. The graduation stage, which students will cross to receive their diplomas, is set up in front of the south end zone.

Family members are invited onto the field to take pictures after the graduates have been formally dismissed. Because of the artificial turf on the football field, shoes must have a wedge, flat bottoms, or heels at least thntendent'e size of a quarter.

To the BHS Class of 2017, I congratulate you on all you have accomplished. I wish you well in whatever future endeavors you choose to pursue. I hope each graduate and their family and friends enjoy celebrating the academic achievements at this year's commencement ceremony.

Following Commencement, seniors are invited to attend an all-night party hosted by BHS Project Graduation at Washington Park Mall. Students can check in between 11 p.m. and 12 a.m. with a driver's license or photo ID. The event will last until 2:30 a.m. Only graduating seniors are eligible to attend.

The final day of the 2016-17 school year is scheduled for Thursday, May 25, the day before the senior class will graduate.

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This column is online at

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1omKVTZrZ65uxnfaqqezlCkERLU2MTNoRtKCd9nXVuw/edit?usp=sharing>