



## 2023 Graduation & Senior Activities

This information is provided to help members of the Class of 2023, and their families and friends, to plan for end-of-year activities leading to graduation on Saturday, June 10, 2023. If there are questions, please do not hesitate to contact Amy Favreau, assistant head of school for enrollment and graduation coordinator, at [afavreau@woodstockacademy.org](mailto:afavreau@woodstockacademy.org), or one of the senior class advisors:

Brad Favreau: [bfavreau@woodstockacademy.org](mailto:bfavreau@woodstockacademy.org)

Sara Dziedzic: [sdziedzic@woodstockacademy.org](mailto:sdziedzic@woodstockacademy.org)

### Participation in Senior Activities & Events

For students to participate in any senior activities they must be attending school in person on a regular basis. Students are required to attend various scheduled activities to participate in Commencement and it is our hope that all seniors will participate in each activity. Students must attend school even if they do not wish to participate in an event as these days are mandatory attendance days. Should a senior choose not to participate in graduation, a written note must be submitted before May 15 to Mrs. Favreau indicating this decision at [afavreau@woodstockacademy.org](mailto:afavreau@woodstockacademy.org).

### Accounts

In order for seniors to participate in graduation activities, including prom, they must pay all outstanding bills, turn in all books, educational materials, athletic and music uniforms, all other issued equipment, and any other materials belonging to The Woodstock Academy. Lockers must be emptied.

Caps, gowns, and tickets will only be distributed to students who have settled their accounts.

### Calendar of Events

May 8: Kathryn Robertson Essay Contest submissions due by 3:00 p.m.

June 2: Last day of classes for seniors

June 3: Senior prom | 6:00 p.m. at the Pequot Museum

June 5: Pink House | 11:00 a.m. at Roseland Cottage

June 6: Senior hand-in & pick-up | 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Alumni Field House

June 7: Senior Class trip | Six Flags New England. Depart 8:30 a.m. Return approx. 6:00 p.m. \$10

June 8: Commencement rehearsal | 8:30 a.m. at Alumni Field House

June 9: Commencement rehearsal | 8:30 a.m. at Alumni Field House

June 9: Class Night | 6:00 p.m. at Loos Center for the Arts (Students arrive at 5:15 p.m.)

June 10: Commencement | 10:00 a.m. on Town Common

### **Senior Class Meetings**

All meetings will be held during the school day and are mandatory for every senior who plans to participate in graduation activities.

### **Kathryn Robertson Essay Contest**

The Robertson Essay Contest allows seniors to submit an essay on a topic provided by our English faculty. The essay topic will be presented in March. Completed essays must be submitted by May 8, 2023 by 3:00 p.m. Three winners will be announced around June 1; winners receive monetary awards. The top winner presents their essay at Commencement.

### **Caps & Gowns**

Seniors who expect to participate in Class Night & Commencement exercises must order, pay for, and wear a cap and gown. Caps, gowns, and honor cords will be distributed prior to Commencement.

### **Senior Prom**

The Senior Prom is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, 2023, at the Pequot Museum, 110 Pequot Trail, Ledyard, CT 06338. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with photos and ends at 10:00 p.m. Students will not be admitted into the prom after 6:45 p.m. unless they have prior written permission from WA administration.

Once admitted, students must remain until at least 9:30 p.m. Students leaving early are expected to sign out; students who leave are not readmitted. This expectation is similar to all school dances. Appropriate attire is expected. All behavior expectations outlined in the Student Handbook will be in effect. All students attending the prom will be subject to a breathalyzer test upon entering the venue and all are expected to comply with this procedure. Other notes:

- Senior prom tickets will be available for sale at the business office on North Campus from May 1 to May 19. Students may purchase tickets between 7:00-7:30 a.m., during lunch, and after school from 2:15-3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$65 and can be paid with exact cash, check, or credit card.
- Please note that all student fees and lunch accounts, which can be found on PowerSchool, must be paid in full before prom tickets can be purchased. Tickets can be purchased with Debit/Credit Card or exact change cash.

- Dining fees need to be paid to Flik (not the business office) before buying tickets. The Business Office does not take lunch payments. You must pay dining fees online through PaySchools or in the dining hall before going to the Business Office to buy prom tickets. (Combined checks for student fees and dining fees will not be accepted.)
- If you are bringing a guest that is not a current WA student, a fully completed guest form must be brought with you when you buy the tickets, including signatures from WA admin.
- If you are bringing a guest (WA student –not a senior) you will need to fill out the [approval form](#) in advance.
- If there are library books/textbooks from previous semesters on your PowerSchool account that you haven't lost and plan to return, those need be brought to the library before you can buy a ticket. If you've lost a book, the book fees listed on PowerSchool need to be paid before buying tickets. Books assigned to you for the current semester will not be on your PowerSchool account until prom ticket sales are over.
- Buy early! Make it easier on yourself and the business office. Please, do not wait until the last day to buy your tickets

### **Senior Pink House Luncheon & Tea**

The Senior Pink House event is at Roseland Cottage on June 5. This tradition dates back to the early 1940s; alumni from that era will be in attendance to greet members of the Class of 2023. The tradition of the senior tea continues to the present day under the auspices of Historic New England as a symbol of the historic relationship between Roseland Cottage and The Woodstock Academy. Roseland Cottage tours will be available. After the buffet luncheon, yearbooks are distributed. Seniors are expected to participate in this activity. A class meeting is scheduled at 10:30 a.m. Students proceed to Roseland Cottage at 11:00 a.m. and remain until 2:00 p.m. As this is a formal activity, students are expected to dress appropriately. Please dress as if you are going to a very upscale restaurant. See Mrs. Favreau if you have questions about attire.

### **Senior Class Trip**

The senior class will travel to Six Flags on June 7, departing from WA at approximately 8:00 a.m. and arriving back to campus by 6 p.m.

[Click here](#) to sign up for the class trip.

### **Senior Academics**

Only seniors who have met the Board of Trustees prescribed graduation requirements will be allowed to participate in Academy Commencement exercises and receive a diploma. Counselors have been working with seniors and their families to determine what individual students must complete to meet these requirements. Letters are sent at the end of each quarter to update families on any concerns that may exist.

### **Graduation Rehearsals**

Graduation rehearsals are required for seniors who intend to participate in our Class Night and Commencement activities. Any exceptions must be approved by the associate head of school, Mrs. Singleton, in advance of the rehearsal. Rehearsals will occur in the Alumni Field House, Loos Center for the Arts, and on the town common. Gowns, honor cords, and tickets will be distributed prior to Commencement. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from graduation rehearsals if regular busing is not available. Seniors with jobs are expected to make appropriate arrangements to participate in both graduation rehearsals. Most employers are willing to accommodate students who let them know in advance of the need to participate in graduation rehearsals and other activities.

### **Class Night**

Class Night is scheduled for Friday, June 9 at 6:00 p.m. at Loos Center for the Arts. Gowns are the attire, and it is expected that students will wear appropriate clothing under their gowns. Seniors are expected to attend this activity. This is when the majority of student awards and scholarships are announced. Students need to check in by 5:15 p.m. in the South Campus Gym. Family of graduates are invited to attend.

### **Commencement Day**

The commencement ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, June 10 at 10:00 a.m. on the Town Common. The senior class will assemble at the North Campus dining commons at 8:45 a.m. to hear an address and to be honored by The Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees.

The Commencement tradition at The Woodstock Academy is the highlight of our academic year. At 10:00 a.m. sharp, graduates proceed to the Town Common. There is unlimited outdoor seating for family members and guests of the Class of 2023. Guests are encouraged to prepare by bringing hats, sunscreen, and bottled water should the day be sunny. An area will be designated for family members to photograph their child receiving a diploma. Seniors will be called in alphabetical order. Once a student has left the stage, parents are asked to return to their seats, allowing other parents to take photos.

### **Special Arrangements for Commencement**

Please notify Mrs. Favreau by Saturday, May 7 if a family member will need special accommodation, such as sign language services or special audio equipment. We will have a live stream of the ceremony for those who are too far away or who are unable to attend the ceremony. Town constables will be assigning accessible parking as needed to individuals based on state-issued disability parking stickers.

### **Parking for Commencement**

Parking is directed by the Town of Woodstock Constables. The Bowen parking lot, the three areas of the Town Common, and the Evangelical Covenant Church lot will be available for parking. Planning to arrive early is important for seniors, as well as for family and friends who will attend our graduation activities.

## **Final Reminders**

1. Appropriate attire for all formal graduation activities (Pink House, Class Night, and Commencement) is required. Jeans and t-shirts are not appropriate. Students should either wear skirts or dresses of an appropriate length or wear a dress shirt and tie with dress pants. Footwear should be appropriate for stairs, ramps, and walking outdoors. Students who participate in graduation activities must comply with these dress code expectations.
2. Acts of misconduct involving alcohol or controlled substances during senior activities, on or off campus, will result in the exclusion of a student from graduation activities and exercises.
3. Student behavior during the last quarter of school must be honorable, both on and off campus. Students at The Woodstock Academy are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner so that the orderly process of education is not interrupted. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against any student who deviates from acceptable school behavior. Students in violation of appropriate behavior expectations may endanger their privilege to take part in Commencement exercises.
4. Remember, graduation activities and exercises are a privilege.

The content in this email is available for reference in the graduation information packet:  
[woodstockacademy.org/students/senior-information](http://woodstockacademy.org/students/senior-information).

Updated April 2023