

# Class of 2023 Graduation and Senior Activities

Update – May 1, 2023

## Graduation Ceremony

### **Venue**

The Class of 2023 Commencement Exercises:  
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 7:30 pm  
Ameris Bank Amphitheater  
Alpharetta, Georgia

Tickets are required for entry. All seating is in the covered amphitheater, and lawn seating will be closed.

- Graduate parking (Lot C) opens at 6:00 pm
- Graduates report to the holding area by 6:30 pm
- Guest and parent parking (Lot A) opens at 6:30 pm
- All gates open at 6:45 pm

### **Parking**

Parents and guests will park in Lot A (1775 Founders Parkway), which opens at 6:30 pm. The West and East gates open at 6:45 pm. Handicapped parking is available in Parking Lot A. Golf cart shuttle will be available from Lot A. Guests can also be dropped off at the main entrance off Encore Parkway.

Graduates will park in Lot C (11450 Maxwell Road), which will open at 6:00 pm, and proceed to the back of the theater at the security checkpoint to enter the graduate holding area. Due to traffic, the walk down to security, and passing through security, please plan to arrive by 6:15 pm. Graduates must be dressed and in the holding area no later than 6:30 pm.

### **Concessions**

Ameris concession stand will open with the gates at 6:45 pm.

### **Traffic Alert**

*From Ameris Bank Amphitheatre – traffic will be impacted regardless of the start time.*

### **Additional Lane Closures On Westside Parkway Thru July**

*Released March 20, 2023, 11:39 am*

Westside Parkway will be reduced to a single travel lane in each direction between Haynes Bridge Road and Hembree Road between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm daily from Thursday, March 23 through Tuesday, July 25. The closure is necessary to ensure the safety of the public while crews run water and sewer lines under the roadway.

Motorists are strongly encouraged to choose alternate routes of travel to avoid the area. The best alternatives will be to use Encore Parkway, North Point Parkway, and Haynes Bridge Road to get around the construction area.

### **ADA Seating and Guest Needing Assistance**

Ameris Bank Amphitheater has ADA seating designed for a wheelchair and one seat. Directly behind this section are box seating. Ameris will reserve these sections for our ADA guests and their families until 7:15 pm; then, they will open up these seats to all. Handicapped parking is available in the Parent/Guest parking lot – A.

## **Ameris Bank Amphitheater Bag Policy**

"To reduce staff contact with guest belongings, we have implemented the following bag policy: we will allow clear plastic, vinyl, or PVC tote bags no larger than 12" x 6" x 12" and/or small clutch bags (4.5" x 6.5"). No other bags of any type will be allowed."

In addition, Ameris Bank Amphitheater will need to tag any oversized bags, such as diaper and camera bags.

## **Tickets**

Tickets for the ceremony are required, and seniors will receive twelve (12) tickets each. Families are encouraged to work within the community to obtain tickets other families may not use if additional tickets are needed. Tickets will be distributed to seniors after the mandatory graduation rehearsal on May 18, at 4:00 pm, at Cambridge High School.

## **Live Stream**

We are working with Ameris Bank Amphitheater to stream the ceremony live through our website: [www.cambridgehs.org](http://www.cambridgehs.org). More information will be forthcoming.

## **Photography**

Our photographer Cady Photography will take pictures of each graduate with their diploma cover once they leave the stage. More information on viewing proofs and purchasing photographs will be forthcoming. In addition, photography is allowed at the venue, and guests are welcome to take pictures of the graduate receiving their diplomas from the seats. We ask guests not to approach the stage or graduates while taking pictures.

## **Announcements**

Class of 2023 Graduation Announcements can be ordered through [3RDASCENT.com](http://3RDASCENT.com). Orders will be shipped directly to your home. If you have questions, please contact 3<sup>rd</sup> Ascent at [support@3rdascent.com](mailto:support@3rdascent.com) or call 770-594-8155.

## **Volunteers**

We seek volunteers 18 years and older to assist with our graduation ceremony. If you know someone who would like to volunteer, you can find the link to volunteer at [Seniors and Graduation > 2023 Commencement Exercises](#).

## **Graduation Rehearsal**

Graduation rehearsal is mandatory for all seniors participating in commencement exercises and will be held at Cambridge High School's Theater. Upon the conclusion of the rehearsal, seniors will receive their graduation tickets and Senior Keepsake envelopes sponsored by the PTSA.

Rehearsal is:

Thursday, May 18, 2023

4:00 pm

Cambridge High School Theater

## Graduates – Preparing for Graduation

### **Graduation IDs**

Seniors have been assigned a graduation ID. This number will be used for all distributions, including tickets and diplomas, and determining how seniors will line up for graduation. Grads can be found at [Seniors and Graduation > Graduation IDs](#). Note that graduation IDs determine the order in which the graduate's name will be read.

### **Name Card Form**

Seniors will present the announcer with a name card when they approach the stage at graduation. The student's full legal name and phonetic pronunciation will be on the card based on the information submitted on the name card form. Seniors are asked to complete the name card form by May 3, 2023, and it can be found at [Seniors and Graduation > Name Cards and Graduation Package](#).

### **Caps, Gowns, and Regalia**

Seniors who have not picked up their cap and gown package should pick it up as soon as possible from Bridge East.

The graduation package includes our custom gown that was sized based on the height and weight included in your order. A graduation cap, Cambridge stole, and a 2023 tassel. Please take a moment to remove all items from the wrapping to ensure you have everything. If you have questions, please contact Carol Bybee at [bybeec@fultonschools.org](mailto:bybeec@fultonschools.org).

For more information on how to wear the Cambridge cap, gown, and regalia, please visit [Seniors and Graduation > Graduation Regalia](#). The Cambridge Stole should be worn over any stoles or cords.

### **Honor Graduates**

Seniors with an overall numeric average of 88 (GPA weighted calculated through the first semester of the senior year) or higher are deemed Honor Graduates and qualify to purchase an honor cord to wear at Graduation. Honor cords are designed as follows:

- Summa Cum Laude for a numeric average of 96 or higher,
- Magna Cum Laude for a numeric average of 92 or higher, or
- Cum Laude for a numeric average of 88 or higher.

The honor cord costs \$10.00 (plus a \$.70 service fee) and can be purchased through OSP. Seniors and Senior Parents/Guardians who earned Honor Cords will receive notification via email next week. Seniors must bring their OSP receipt to the Bridge West office to pick up their honor cords. All honor cords will be verified during pick-up.

### **Academic and Service Cords**

Cambridge High School academic and service organizations that are part of a National or International organization were approved to distribute cords and/or stoles. A list of the approved organizations and the sponsor for each organization can be found at [Seniors and Graduation > Graduation Regalia](#). Sponsors for each organization will work with their eligible seniors to purchase and distribute their regalia.

## Day of Graduation

### **Arrival**

Graduates arrive in the holding area at the venue by 6:30 pm with caps and gowns. Graduates will park in lot C (11450 Maxwell Road) and proceed to the security checkpoint. Staff will be on hand to direct our graduates. Graduates should

not bring bags or purses as there will not be a secure place to leave them. Upon arrival, all graduates will walk through a metal detector, and any bag will be searched. Graduates cannot bring unopened plastic bottles into the venue. Water will be provided in the graduate holding area.

## **Dress**

Seniors should wear appropriate attire for the graduation ceremony. Appropriate attire includes a collared shirt, tie, dress slacks, dress shoes, dress, blouse, and skirt. Flat shoes or lower heels are recommended as the graduates process through the amphitheater and down stairs. Seniors *should not* wear t-shirts, halter tops, tank tops, jeans, shorts, etc.

During graduation rehearsal, seniors will be shown how to wear approved cords and stoles with their Cambridge regalia. The most important piece of regalia is the Cambridge Stole, which should be worn over any stoles or cords. In keeping with the tradition of a dignified ceremony, decorated caps, and other adornments will not be allowed. Once the graduation procession begins, gowns should be completely zipped and remain zipped throughout the ceremony.

## Senior Walks

Seniors can visit their elementary school on the Senior Walk day, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 1:00 pm. Schools participating include:

Amana Academy  
Cogburn Woods  
Manning Oaks  
Fulton Academy of Science & Technology

Birmingham Falls  
Summit Hill  
Alpharetta

## End of School for Seniors and Checkout

### **Academics**

The final day of instruction for seniors is May 12, 2023. Grades are due for seniors on May 18, 2023. Remediation will occur for Cambridge High School courses from May 15 through May 18.

FVS's last day is May 16, with grades due May 17. GAVS is holding finals the week of May 6-12, with grades available on May 18. The remediation window does not apply to FVS or GAVS courses.

Any student not passing a course needed for graduation as of May 18, 2023, will not be allowed to walk in the Cambridge graduation. All senior grades will be finalized at 4:00 pm on May 18, 2023, to start the final transcript check and process needed for graduation.

### **Senior Exit Survey and Final Transcript Request**

The Senior Checkout and Final Transcript Request form is required for all graduating seniors, regardless of plans after graduation. The form is due back to Bridge West no later than May 2, 2023. This form includes the following:

- Confirmation that the mandatory Fulton County Schools' Senior Exit Survey was completed (available on Naviance, under "Important To Dos and Task - Class of 2023 Senior Exit Survey.")
- Post-graduation plans
- Final transcript requests
- Scholarship offers

[Graduation and Seniors > Senior Checkout and Final Transcript Request.](#)

## **Senior Checkout (Devices, Media Center items, and textbooks)**

Seniors and their parents will receive a notice on May 1 of all school-issued property checked out by the student. All school devices with chargers, library books, and calculators must be returned to the Media Center by Friday, May 12. All textbooks must be returned to the teacher who assigned them. All outstanding fines must be paid through Online School Payments. Diplomas will be held for any senior who has outstanding property or fines.

## **Communications**

Updates will be posted to our website's Seniors and Graduation page as additional information is made available. Each morning, seniors are asked to check their daily announcements (Cambridge Headlines) sent to their FCS email address and posted to [www.cambridgehs.org](http://www.cambridgehs.org) to stay informed. Parents and guardians will receive graduation and senior event updates through the weekly newsletter.

## **Yearbooks**

The deadline to order the 2022-2023 yearbook has been extended to May 5, 2023. To order a yearbook, visit [Seniors and Graduation 2022-2023 Yearbook](#).

## **Parent and PTSA Sponsored Activities**

### **Baccalaureate (Parent sponsored)**

A baccalaureate is a non-denominational, faith-based service of worship that celebrates graduating seniors.

Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 4:00 pm

Stonecreek Church

13540 Highway 9 North

Milton, Georgia

Donations are being accepted to cover expenses. For more information, contact Malini Doyle at [malinidoyle@gmail.com](mailto:malinidoyle@gmail.com) or Colleen Dangoia at [cadangoia@gmail.com](mailto:cadangoia@gmail.com).

### **Cambridge Post (Sponsored by the PTSA)**

Cambridge Post blue keepsake envelopes will be provided by the PTSA and distributed to seniors after graduation rehearsal with instructions on how to collect letters and cards. For more information, see [Seniors and Graduation > PTSA Senior Activities and Membership](#).

### **Senior Celebrations (Sponsored by the PTSA)**

As part of the senior PTSA membership, the Cambridge PTSA has coordinated several senior events and activities, including the Graduation Luau for Senior Members. It is not too late to join at [www.cambridgeptsamembershiptoolkit.com](http://www.cambridgeptsamembershiptoolkit.com). You can learn more about these celebrations at [Seniors and Graduation > PTSA Senior Activities and Membership](#).

### **Senior Slide Show (Sponsored by the PTSA)**

The PTSA is collecting photos for the senior slide show. If you would like to include photos, please email them [cambridgehsclassof2023@gmail.com](mailto:cambridgehsclassof2023@gmail.com). Include the names of the senior students pictured. Seniors only, please (or seniors with siblings). Images should be school appropriate. There is a maximum of 2-3 photos per submission. Please know there is no guarantee all submitted photos will be used. The PTSA would like to have at least one of every senior represented.

## Senior Bulletin Board

Our PTSA sponsors the Senior Board, located west of the Media Center. Submit your graduation plan to be posted to the board. Use the QR code posted next to the board.



## Graduation Signs (Sponsored by the PTSA)

Yard signs can still be purchased at [VIPdecals.com](https://www.vipdecals.com).