**2023 GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT - Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **WHEN:** Wednesday, June 1, at 1:00 p.m. Graduates should plan to arrive by 12:00 p.m. and assemble in the gym. All graduates **must** attend graduation rehearsal the day before in order walk in the ceremony.
2. **LOCATION**: In the Cottonwood High School Auditorium. **There is limited seating**; each graduate will be given the same number of tickets (usually 7). Individuals or families that show up without tickets will not be allowed in the auditorium.
* Graduation at Cottonwood has always been in the auditorium. This is a formal ceremony intended to be shared only with parents, guardians, and a few close family members. The student leaders and Community Council have considered other venues (and additional costs) and have repeatedly voted to hold formal graduation exercises at the home school.
* Tickets will be given out to each senior starting May 15th once they have completed and turned in their graduation application.
* Any leftover tickets will be given out to the graduates right after graduation rehearsal. Last year, those who lined up for additional tickets received 1.
1. **CAP & GOWN:**  Seniors participating in graduation must order a cap and gown from Jostens. All other items are optional (such as announcements, rings, diploma frames, mugs, etc.) and are handled directly through Jostens at Jostens.com \*The basic cap and gown is free to rent.

**Jostens will be at Cottonwood to deliver caps and gowns May 15th during lunch to any student who is cleared for graduation.** After that date, students who have already ordered a cap and gown can pick it up in the Counseling Center before school, at lunch, or after school. \*If your student still hasn’t ordered their cap and gown, one can be ordered online at www.jostens.com . **Students who have not completed their graduation application, nor turned it in to their counselor, cannot pick up their cap and gown or graduation tickets.**

**GRADUATION HOLDS**: Students will be on graduation hold for any of the following reasons: not cleared by teachers, not cleared by counselor, no District survey, no civics exam, CPA below 2.0, outstanding fees.

In addition to the cap and gown, some students qualify for other honors such as:

WHITE TASSEL: Citizenship of 3.5 or higher (worn on cap) – will be in box with cap and gown

WHITE CORD: Diploma of Merit Recipients (worn around neck) – see counseling secretary

GOLD CORD: 3.7 GPA or higher (worn around neck) – see counseling secretary

**PICTURES:** Lifetouch Photography will be taking pictures of every graduate during the commencement exercises and will have the photos available for purchase through their website. No other picture taking on the stage is allowed during the graduation program. Families are welcome to take photos before and after commencement.