



PORT JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT
EARL L. VANDERMEULEN HIGH SCHOOL
350 OLD POST ROAD
PORT JEFFERSON, NY 11777
PHONE (631)791-4400 FAX (631)476-4408



Jessica Schmettan
Superintendent of Schools

John Ruggero
Building Principal

June 2026

Dear Parents and Students:

As you know, Friday, June 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. will be the One Hundred and Thirty-Second Graduation at Earl L. Vandermeulen High School. It will be a special day for all of us. Listed below is the necessary information for the Commencement Exercises:

- DATE:** Friday, June 26, 2026
- TIME OF GRADUATION:** 6:00 p.m.
Graduates must report to the gymnasium at 5:00 p.m.
- LOCATION:** Earl L. Vandermeulen High School Bowl or Auditorium in the event of inclement weather.
- LIVESTREAM:** <https://vimeo.com/event/2313351>
- REHEARSAL:** Following a Senior Breakfast from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., rehearsal will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday morning, June 26, 2026.
ALL GRADUATES MUST ATTEND REHEARSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Ten (10) per graduate – These will be distributed Wednesday, June 17 and Thursday, June 18 in the main office. These announce your graduation – they are not tickets to graduation.
- TICKETS:** Eight (8) per graduate – These will be distributed Wednesday, June 17 and Thursday, June 18 in the main office.
If we are on the field, tickets will not be collected.
In case of rain, we will move into the auditorium and tickets will be needed. No one will be admitted to the auditorium without a ticket.

CAPS & GOWNS:

Caps and gowns will be distributed on Wednesday, June 17 and Thursday, June 18 in the main office until 3:00 p.m. *These items do not have to be returned.* N.H.S. members will have tassels and Computer Science Honor Society members will have a chord with the cap and gown.

**CHROMEBOOK/GRAPHING CALCULATOR
/LIBRARY BOOKS:**

Chromebooks will be collected on Wednesday, June 17 and Thursday, June 18 outside of the library until 2:30 p.m. **YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR CAP AND GOWN WITHOUT RETURNING YOUR CHROMEBOOK WITH CHARGER AND YOUR GRAPHING CALCULATOR.**

**OBLIGATIONS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES:**

All graduation obligations must be met in order to participate in graduation.

All unpaid balances must be paid to receive a cap and gown, i.e. lunch balances, book fines, uniforms. We will have a staff member here to collect the unpaid balances outside of the library on June 17 and June 18.

DRESS:

Graduation is an important event; please dress appropriately.

SEATING:

Seating will be on a first-come, first-serve basis on the field or in the auditorium. We anticipate an audience of at least seven-hundred guests.

HANDICAPPED PARKING:

Individuals with special needs (wheelchairs, walkers, etc.) can park in the designated lot at the beginning of the driveway by the tennis courts. Transportation will be available to those individuals to the seating area.

REQUIREMENTS:

The ordering of a cap and gown, receipt of announcements, etc. are not a guarantee of graduation. Only those students who have successfully completed all requirements for graduation will participate in the ceremony.

If you have any additional questions, or I may assist you in any way, please call me at (631) 791- 4421.

Respectfully,



John Ruggero
Principal