



TWHS Senior 411 Guide

A Guide for TWHS Students
(and their parents) for Senior Year

Welcome to your senior year! The PTO has put together this simple guide to summarize important details leading up to the graduation of your senior. Dates of these events will be given to your students at the Senior meeting in the first few weeks of school.

College and Career Counseling Center

TWHS is fortunate to have a College and Career Counseling Center with a dedicated counseling staff, located on the Main Campus second floor. All college representatives visiting campus are scheduled and coordinated through this center. If your senior is not familiar with this center, please encourage them to visit. Parents and seniors will also receive periodic emails from the College and Career Counseling Center; contact the Center directly if you are not receiving these emails.

Family Connection Naviance

CISD provides all high school students with a Naviance Family Connection account. If your senior does not have an account in Family Connection, contact the College and Career Counseling Center. As a parent, you should also have access to view your student's account. Each Family Connection account is populated with your student's SAT & ACT test scores, rank, and course records. Upcoming visits by college representatives are announced here. In addition, the program has many tools for evaluating colleges and options beyond high school. **Scattergrams** shows the test scores and GPAs of other students who graduated from TWHS and were admitted to many colleges. There are also links to college websites. Family Connection also has several career interest exploration tools that can help your senior determine their future path. Finally, senior announcements are placed on the homepage of your student's account.

Senior Pictures

Yearbook photos of each senior are taken at Blu Moon Photography at 8450 Prine Lane. You must have your photo taken at Blu Moon by late September or you will not appear in the yearbook. Blue Moon has the current TWHS approved cap & gown to ensure that your student has the correct one for photos. The yearbook committee **ONLY** accepts pictures from Blu Moon Photography for the yearbook. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** No yearbook pictures of seniors will be taken at school. (Only yearbook photos of students in grades 9, 10, & 11 are taken at school.) Information about Blu Moon Photography and senior yearbook photos is sent to all registered rising seniors. The Blu Moon hours for appointments are listed on their website at www.blumoonphoto.com; you can also reach them by phone at 281-252-3990. If you did not receive this information, it is posted on the TWHS school website under yearbooks: <http://thewoodlandyearbook.com/SeniorPortrait.html>. If you have questions about any of this, you can contact: thewoodlandyearbook@gmail.com

Blu Moon and other photographers offer "Senior Portrait packages," which include a variety of poses and settings. These portrait packages are optional. Many families use these photos for Senior Ads; however, they cannot be used in place of the yearbook photo.

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Senior Class Picture

Senior class pictures can be purchased from Herndon Panoramics site:

<https://herndonpanoramics.com>

Senior Ads

Many student families purchase Senior Ads. The ads appear in the TWHS yearbook and provide a way to highlight your senior's activities and growth in the years leading up to graduation. The size ranges from a quarter- to a full-page spread of the graduating senior; prices vary accordingly. The applications, associated fees, photos, and information for the ads are submitted to the TWHS yearbook department. The student yearbook staff can help you arrange your ad, or you may provide the completed ad. They are due around mid-October each year. Most Ads are purchased for a single student; however, many TWHS booster clubs and Woodlands area community organizations purchase ads honoring seniors affiliated with their group. More information is available on the yearbook website: <http://thewoodlandyearbook.com/>.

School Cash Online

Please check School cash online monthly, as this is where senior yard signs, shirts, dues, transcripts, and other fees will be paid. <https://conroeisd.schoolcashonline.com/> Students will pick yard signs and shirts up at the window in the cafeteria. If you are not clear with textbooks, transcript fees, or any other fees, you will not be able to attend prom, and you will not receive your family's four covered graduation seats or your diploma.

Senior Dues

Senior Dues are a single fee paid by all seniors to cover important costs related to senior year. The cost is about \$90 and is due in early February; late fees are incurred after this date. Parents are encouraged to pay senior dues online, though they may be paid through the Grade Level Office. Senior dues are optional. Seniors do not have to pay any dues to graduate; however, you will not be able to participate in many important senior events (see below).

This fee includes: Your seniors (ONE) ticket to the Senior Prom, Prom favor, Prom Decorations, Rental of Hotel ballroom for Prom (including food), DJ at Prom, Prom Program (containing Senior class favorites, etc.), Senior t-shirt (given out during Prom week), King & Queen Crowns given during Prom, food at the Senior picnic, rental of park for Senior picnic, DJ at Senior picnic, Senior College Wall, Senior Awards night (programs, certificates, decorations), Senior Achievement Award Scholarships, graduation at the pavilion (including rental of pavilion and graduation program).

This fee does not include: Homecoming ticket, Panoramic Class Picture, Prom date ticket, personal prom pictures, Graduation Highlanders, any expenses associated with graduation (Cap, Gown or Announcements).

Senior Dues & Prom: Seniors who do not pay their dues will not be allowed to attend prom as a date. If a senior attends prom, their Senior Dues must be paid, or they will be escorted off the premises. Seniors are NOT able to pick and choose what their dues cover.

For Early Graduates: Seniors that graduate early may still pay their dues and participate in all activities. An early graduate cannot go as a date to prom if they do not pay their dues. They are considered the same Graduating Class and must pay their dues.

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Cap & Gown and Graduation Announcements

Seniors are required to wear a cap & gown to graduation. Herff Jones is the TWHS seller for all caps and gowns; In addition, students may order the official TWHS graduation announcements, as well as a variety of other graduation items. Please note that the senior shirt sold by Herff Jones is not customized for TWHS, it is a basic senior shirt. Students will receive a TWHS senior shirt closer to the end of the year paid for by their Senior dues. Herff Jones visits TWHS in the second semester for fittings to take orders. This is to ensure your student purchases the correct length gown. You can also place your order on the Herff Jones website <https://www.herffjones.com> by searching for The Woodlands High School. You may wear a cap & gown from a previous TWHS Senior if it is the current graduating style and the correct height size for your senior, but you will still have to purchase the current year tassel for the cap. Mega tassels and memory tassels are both accepted at graduation. The size of the tassel is a personal preference. You can also buy tassels on websites like Amazon if they are in unison with what is currently being used for the year. Herff Jones has a picture of these on their flyers. No decorating of caps will be accepted at graduation. Do not alter your cap and gown. If you need assistance with your cap and gown, Herff Jones will be on site to assist.

Under cap and gown: Men should wear dress slacks, a collared shirt with a tie and dress shoes. Ladies should wear dresses or nice slacks and dress shoes. Be careful with high heels. There are stairs on each side of the stage you will have to navigate. No Flip flops or tennis shoes allowed.

Graduation announcements: Some students prefer to order their graduation announcements from an independent vender; however, these announcements may not have the TWHS school seal. Blu Moon Photography provides these announcements as well as several online vendors.

Senior Prom

Senior Prom is usually held at the Marriott Waterway Hotel from 8pm-midnight. Only your ticket to prom is paid with your Senior Dues. If you did not pay your Senior Dues, you cannot attend Prom (see Senior Dues above). You will have to pay for your date's ticket through School Cash Online <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/>. Students are allowed to invite underclassmen or non-TWHS students as their dates. Dates for prom MUST be under 21. If dates are not a TWHS student, they must take a photo ID to prom. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the prom. This event is sponsored by the TWHS Student Council, with administrators serving as chaperones.

All textbooks, uniforms, transcript and library fines or fees must be cleared in advance. You can also pay for these on School Cash Online.

Senior Awards Night

This event is held in mid-May. Seniors who receive university scholarships or academic, athletic, booster club, community, or other awards are honored at this event. Families are invited to attend and celebrate their senior's accomplishments. Parents and/or students will get the invitation email if your child is receiving an award, scholarships, etc. Please reach out to the college and career counselor if your child gets an outside scholarship or awards, so that they may be included on awards night. Many scholarship options are posted on the school's college and careers Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/twhsccc/>

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Senior Picnic

The Senior Picnic is held at one of The Woodlands area parks. All seniors are invited to attend if they have paid their Senior Dues. Picnic highlights include a DJ, volleyball, lawn games, and vendors such as Kona Ice. It is a fun opportunity for seniors to spend a little time together prior to graduation. Parents do not attend. The picnic is usually scheduled the weekday before graduation.

Senior Finals Week

Even if a senior is exempt from finals, they **MUST** be present for all finals days.

Graduation Practice & Tickets

Mandatory Graduation practice is held the day before graduation. Seniors must arrive at school by 8:30am and do not need to bring anything with them. Practice is usually no longer than 3 hours depending on timeliness and students following instructions. If held at TWHS, students will drive themselves to and from practice and walk through the ceremony in the large gym. If held at the Pavilion, students will board school buses at school that will take them to the Pavilion for practice. Students are not allowed to drive themselves to and/or from Pavilion practice. Following practice, each student will receive 4 assigned seating tickets to graduation for their families and friends. These 4 tickets are free and are under the covered awning of the pavilion. If students need additional tickets, there is unlimited lawn seating, and free lawn chairs are provided on both sides of the Pavilion the day of. There is no charge for anyone to attend graduation. Handicap seating is easily available for those who need it. As part of Graduation Highlanders fundraising campaign, 2 sets of 2 seats will be offered for silent auction in May for graduation. The winners of these packages will receive these tickets in addition to the 4 seats they already receive for free. This is an optional fundraiser for Graduation Highlanders. Further information will be released in May. Check the PTO website for more information.

<https://twhspto.weebly.com/>. The graduation tickets Auction site will be active once time gets closer: <https://twhspto.weebly.com/graduation-ticket-bids.html>

Graduation Practice Clap Out

Many parents line Research Forest with balloons and signs while cheering seniors on as they arrive at the school (if being hosted in the gym) or cheer them on as they leave the school by bus to the Pavilion. This is an old parent tradition and **NOT** hosted by the school.

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Graduation Day

The graduation ceremony will be held at the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion rain or shine and will be live streamed and recorded. You can purchase a USB copy of the ceremony on School Cash Online. The USB will usually be mailed out in July. The livestream will be on Conroe ISD's YouTube channel. There is no link yet but when time gets closer search The Woodlands High School Graduation and it will pop up. The livestream can also be found on the District's Website: <https://www.conroeisd.net/about/graduation-central/>

Parents and guests will not be allowed to come to the front and take pictures. A few days after graduation, the photographers from Flash Photography will mail and/or email you proofs with instructions on how to order your pictures. You can also visit their website

<http://www.flashphotography.com>.

- o Gates open at 6:00 PM
- o Graduates should arrive at 6:00 PM and will need to report to their seat at the Pavilion no later than 6:30 PM.
- o The graduation ceremony starts at 07:30 PM and goes on until approximately 10:15 PM. Graduates can leave their seats for bathroom breaks but are expected to stay for the entire ceremony.

- If you are dropping someone off, drop off is at The Pavilion Event Center - 2005 Lake Robbins Dr, The Woodlands, TX 77380 - be cautious of others walking across the street.
- Free parking is available in the lighted and patrolled lots off Timberloch place.
- Paid parking is in the Town Center Parking Garage
- The stadium is a cashless Venue, including parking and concessions.
- **Only Stadium Approved clear 12" x 6" x 12" tote bags**, 1-gallon clear plastic bags, and small non clear clutches with straps not exceeding 4.5" x 6.5" allowed. Bags cannot have patterns and cannot be tinted. This is strictly enforced by the Pavilion, and bags are measured at the gate.
(EXAMPLE OF A STADIUM APPROVED BAG: <https://a.co/d/3iQX1eK>)
- Non – detachable cameras are permitted, but **no camera bags**.
- A medically necessary bag (sized appropriately to the medical needs) or diaper bag (accompanied by infant/toddler) is permitted but will be subject to search.
- Following standard safety protocol, **all unattended items**, and bags outside the gates or within the venue **will be removed from the facility immediately**.
- Personal lawn chairs are not permitted. Cynthia Woods will have their lawn chairs available for pickup - free of charge.
- Blankets, tarps, and picnic blankets are permitted.
- Food in its original packaging or in a one-gallon plastic bag for personal consumption is permitted.
- Clear empty plastic water bottles are permitted. **No Glass**. There are water stations around the pavilion to fill your water bottle. In accordance with TABC laws, visitors may not bring any beverage items into the venue at any time.
- Concessions will be open, but alcohol will not be served as this is a school function.
- Every parent wants to hear their child's name called and see them as they walk across the stage, so poster signs, balloons, air horns and noise makers **are not allowed**.
- Signs 8.5"x11" or smaller are permitted.
- No smoking or vaping is allowed at CISD events.
- Visit Cynthia Woods website for concessions, parking, and rules
<https://www.woodlandscenter.org/>

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Graduation Highlanders: Main Event

To keep our graduating seniors safe, the PTO offers an all-night lock-in party in a safe, substance-free atmosphere held at Main Event from 11pm-5am, following the graduation ceremony at the Pavilion. It is a fun time and is the seniors' last chance to socialize with their whole class. This event is organized by PTO parent volunteers and funded by donations and ticket sales. Traditionally at least 80% of the graduating class will attend. Many students win great prizes, such as TVs, electronic tablets, gift cards, and items for college. Seniors can play unlimited Main Event games, billiards, laser tag, and bowling. Casino games are also open along with a Money Machine. Main Event provides all you can eat food and soft drinks.

Transportation to and from Graduation Highlanders is NOT provided. Parents are STRONGLY encouraged to drop off and pick up their students; many students are too tired to drive home at 5am.

All seniors must purchase a ticket to attend the event. Tickets are available for purchase beginning in early spring at a discount; prices increase as the date of the event approaches. This event is open to seniors graduating from TWHS only. Seniors are not permitted to bring dates from other grades or other schools.

Volunteers are required to run this event. Parents from all grades are asked to volunteer in a pay-it-forward concept. Many parents of seniors volunteer also, but since many will have guests in town for graduation, we need the help of underclass parents or even college students. Planning meetings will be held in the fall and information will be disseminated via the TWHS school newsletter. Any tax-deductible donations by families and businesses are very welcome.

More information is available at: <http://www.twhsgrad.org>

- Volunteer here: <https://twhsgrad.weebly.com/volunteer.html>
- Buy tickets here: <https://twhsgrad.weebly.com/tickets.html>

All other events

If there is an event happening that was not listed, these are thrown by the Student Council. Events in the past include senior sunrise, senior field day, and car painting, but may change in the future. Your student will hear about these at school, in Highlander happenings or on the school announcements.

If you have a question that is not addressed in this guide, PLEASE let us know so we can add it!
Email TWHSPTO@gmail.com