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**2018**

**Commencement**

**June 2, 8:30 AM**

**Smart Financial Centre**

**Graduating Seniors**

**Graduation ceremonies will begin promptly at 8:30am on June 2, 2018, at**

**the Smart Financial Centre in Sugar Land.**

In order for your ceremony to be the best ever, please follow these instructions:

**DRESS**

**Males:** Slacks (preferably dark), shirt with a collar, tie and **dark** shoes.

 **Trimmed facial hair**

**Females:** Dress, skirt or nice slacks with **dark** shoes (avoid excessively high heels)

**Everyone:** No jeans, shorts, tennis shoes, flip-flops, or sandals.

* **Anyone not following the stated dress code guidelines may not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony.**
* You may not alter or decorate your graduation cap in any way.

**ARRIVE TO CAMPUS**

* **Plan to arrive at the Ridge Point GYM at 6:30 a.m.** **– PLEASE** **NO LATER THAN 6:30a.m.**

**WHEN YOU ARRIVE TO CAMPUS- bring your cap and gown (we will put it on in the gym before we load buses)**

**PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT BRING PURSES, CAMERAS, SUNGLASSES OR OTHER PERSONAL ITEMS. THERE IS NO PLACE TO SECURE THESE ITEMS, AND THEY CANNOT BE**

**CARRIED DURING THE CEREMONY. Any and all of these items will be confiscated. You will have to pick up confiscated items at Ridge Point High School on Monday, June 4th after 10:00 a.m.**

**We will load buses from the gym “stage” area.**

* Parents and guests will not be allowed to bring in noisemakers, flowers, or balloons.
* All handbags, purses, backpacks are not allowed.

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

If you have any questions regarding special needs for parking and/or seating for the elderly and/or handicapped individuals, please call the Smart Financial Center @ 281-207-6278.

**PROCESSIONAL**

* Students will exit the bus at Smart Financial and line up accordingly behind the stage. The processional will begin at the back entrance of the lobby.
* At **EXACTLY** **8:30 a.m.,** the music will begin to play and the processional will begin. **IF YOU ARE NOT IN YOUR ASSIGNED SEAT AT THE TIME OF GRADUATION, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED** **TO walk in WITH THE CLASS.** You will be seated on one side of the arena area and will be allowed to join your classmates when your row comes forward to be recognized.
* When you march in, remain standing until the entire class has entered. Your tassel will be on the right side before you graduate.
* Watch the row sponsor at the end of the row for a signal about when to stand. Your row will stand all at one time and file out.
* When you reach the podium, the orator will call out your name and you will walk across the stage. MANY people will be there to shake your hand. Shake with your right hand and reach for your diploma cover with your left hand.
* After you receive your diploma cover and are walking off the stage, move your tassel to the left side. After you receive your diploma cover, move quickly to the photography spot to have your picture taken. You will return to the seat on the opposite side of your row. Same seat number.. opposite side.
* File back into your respective row and be seated.

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

* At the end of the ceremony, we will sing the Alma Mater together. On the last word of the Alma Mater, you may throw your cap in the air. **Remove your tassel before throwing your cap** and throw it straight up. The caps are pointed and dangerous, so do not look up.
* You should have your name written in the inside of your cap. **YOU MAY NOT PICK UP YOUR CAP IF YOU THROW IT.** The caps are picked up following the ceremony and will be returned to RPHS and kept for **one week** in the front office.
* After **one week** they will be discarded. **THE SCHOOL IS IN NO WAY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR CAP, SO** **IF YOU WANT TO KEEP IT**, **DON’T THROW IT!**
* Family and friends **MAY NOT** come back stage at any time. Make plans to meet your family at a designated area outside SFC. You will not be allowed to re-enter Smart Financial.

**ALMA MATER**

**As I grow through the ages,**

**There’s a place that warms my heart.**

**Panther pride fills my memory,**

**Forever, I’m part.**

**As I travel through all time,**

**As my life passes by,**

**I will remember Ridge Point High.**

**My Ridge Point High!**