

## SANTA TERESA HIGH SCHOOL 2018 GRADUATION CONTRACT

The following is important information concerning graduation requirements necessary to participate in the 2018 graduation ceremony.

**1. DIGNITY OF CEREMONY:** Graduation is a formal and traditional ceremony. Graduation is the culmination of 12 years of hard work. Parents, relatives, and students want their graduation to be one that they will always remember. Rules and policies are established by high schools to insure that graduation is a respected and memorable affair. We ask for your cooperation so that GRADUATION 2018 will be very memorable and special for all the graduates.

Every graduate and his or her family should be able to hear his/her name being announced. For that reason, graduates, parents, and guests are asked to leave all materials that would create an undignified atmosphere at home. All inappropriate items will be confiscated at the door and not returned. Such materials include but are not limited to, noisemakers, banners, cowbells, air horns, inflatable items, signs, umbrellas, balloons, silly string, confetti, beach balls, etc. In addition, strollers are not allowed in the Don Haskins Center. UTEP security has been instructed to ban admission to anyone who does not comply with these requests. Security will also remove from the ceremony any graduate or audience member who violates the decorum of the event. Any senior who behaves in a disruptive and/or disrespectful manner at any point during the ceremony will be removed from the Don Haskins Center and have their official diploma withheld by administration.

Any inappropriate behavior during the school year especially during the days prior to graduation will not be tolerated and may result in not being allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. All graduates are expected to act in a courteous manner before, during, and until the conclusion of the graduation ceremony. You are asked to refrain from talking during the ceremony. Making loud comments or embarrassing comments about other graduates will not be tolerated.

**Participation in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, not a right.** Behavior should reflect the pride in you, your family, and Santa Teresa High School. If you do not feel you can uphold the standards of Santa Teresa High School, please arrange to pick up your diploma on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at the school.

**2. GRADUATION PRACTICE:** All seniors participating in the graduation ceremony **MUST** attend practice. **THE PRACTICE DATE IS WEDNESDAY MAY 23, 2018 AT 2:30 IN THE CAFETERIA.** Attendance at practice is **MANDATORY.** **If you do not attend practice, you will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.**

**3. GRADUATION DRESS CODE:** The school administration and class officers established a dress code many years ago. This dress code will again be required of all students wishing to participate in the commencement exercises. Students who are not in the required dress code will not be allowed to participate in the commencement ceremony. The dress code is simple, inexpensive and will be strictly enforced.

MALES:

- BLACK pants/slacks, no jeans and no khaki's.
- WHITE dress shirt (no colored shirts)
- BLACK necktie (no big designs on necktie). Must wear a necktie.
- BLACK shoes—no tennis shoes and no boots with metal buckles or chains.

FEMALES:

- BLACK dress or BLACK pants/slacks if dress/slacks go BELOW gown line.
- If dress is completely covered by gown, may wear any color dress.
- No jeans and no khaki's
- BLACK shoes—no tennis shoes and no white/silver shoes. Black shoes should not have any other color within the shoe.
- No collar may stick out of the neck gown.

ALL JEWELRY FOR BOTH MALES AND FEMALES MUST BE WORN INSIDE THE GRADUATION GOWN.

Nothing may be worn, written, painted, pinned, taped, or attached in any manner to the gown or cap or graduates clothing. The graduate may carry no signs of any kind. You may not carry flowers during the ceremony. Nothing may be painted on the face or hands. Colored hair is not permitted.

NO cell phones, tablets, silly string, water guns, balloons, confetti, cameras, sunglasses, flowers, horns, purses, GUM, keys, etc. are allowed. All items will be confiscated and will need to be picked up at school the following

Tuesday.

Students will be checked prior to lining up for the processional start of graduation.

Only traditional cords/stoles may be worn—These are stoles and pins awarded by school sponsored clubs and awarded at the Senior Awards Ceremony. NO OTHER STOLES OR PINS MAY BE WORN.

4. **REPORT TIME:**
  - a. **PRACTICE**-All seniors MUST attend graduation practice at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday May 23, 2018. Students will report to the STHS cafeteria at the designated time. Practice is MANDATORY.
  - b. **GRADUATION**-all graduates should report to the south end of the Don Haskins Center on Saturday, May 26, 2018 promptly by 9:00 a.m. Only graduates may enter through the south door entrance.
  - c. **Graduation ceremony starts promptly at 10:00 a.m.** and all graduates must be checked and in line before moving to the tunnel area. **BE ON TIME.**
  - d. Graduates that are late will not be allowed on the graduation floor once the processional and ceremony has started.
5. **FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS (DEBTS):** ALL debts must be paid in order to receive your diploma on graduation day AND participate in the graduation ceremony. If all debts have not been paid by graduation rehearsal day, you will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony or receive your diploma.
6. **RECESSIONAL:** Once the senior class president leads the graduates in the traditional turning of the tassels, graduates are asked to exit via the tunnel to pick up diplomas. Tables will be set up as the graduates exit the ceremony with the diplomas.
7. **ELIGIBILITY FOR GRADUATION:** Please remember that in order to be eligible to participate in graduation; each student must first meet three basic requirements:
  - a. Have the required number of courses and credits.
  - b. Have a parent signature on their "Next Step Plan" as required by the PED.
  - c. Have signed (by student and parent) a graduation contract.

**Graduation is Saturday, May 26, 2018 at 10:00 am. at the Don Haskins Center in El Paso, Texas**