

Class of 2024



Senior Parent Guide

August 2023

Dear Senior Parents,

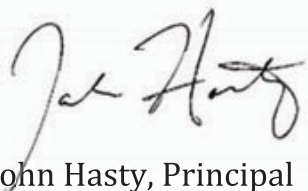
I hope this letter finds you in the midst of a restful summer. It is hard to believe that your child has arrived at their senior year! Please know that our administrators, teachers and support staff will continue to serve them as they begin their journey to the finish line.

This guide contains useful information to make your child's last year at Bishop Chatard a successful one. Your child's final year will be filled with numerous experiences that are unique to this particular school year. This guide has been prepared from the questions and suggestions of senior parents who have come before you. A great deal of information about your child's senior year can also be obtained by visiting the Senior Page on our website at www.BishopChatard.org/seniors. This content will be updated regularly, so please visit the page often!

As you prepare for the many exciting yet challenging moments that senior year brings, please know that your sons and daughters will be remembered throughout the year in the prayers of the entire Bishop Chatard community. We pray for their safety, for their continued dedication to develop their God-given gifts and talents, and for their ability to make responsible choices throughout the school year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

God bless,



John Hasty, Principal
Bishop Chatard High School

Senior Activities

Senior Parent Meeting

Date: Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2023

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Bishop Chatard Gymnasium

This meeting will go over all important information needed for senior year. It is strongly encouraged that at least one parent attend this meeting.

The Living Rosary

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023

Time: 8:50 a.m.

Location: Bishop Chatard Gymnasium

Attire: Dress Code for Specific Senior Dress Up Days (see guidelines later in this guide)

The Living Rosary, a prayer service put on by the senior class, is one of the oldest school traditions. It allows seniors the opportunity to lead the school in prayer to Mary, Mother of God, the Patroness of Bishop Chatard High School. Parents of seniors are invited to join us for this event and a reception will follow in the cafeteria. Seniors are dismissed for the day following the reception. More information will be sent out in September.

Senior Mass with the Archbishop

Date: TBD (Please keep an eye out for communication from the Campus Ministry office in September)

Time: TBD

Attire: School Uniform

The Class of 2024 will celebrate Mass with other seniors from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. This is a required day for seniors. They will be dismissed for the day once they return to BCHS.

Senior Grandparents Mass

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Bishop Chatard Gymnasium

Attire: Dress Code for Senior In-School Dress Up Days

Junior-Senior Prom

Date: TBD

Time: 7 - 10:30 p.m.

Location: TBD

BCHS juniors and seniors in good standing may attend the prom. Freshmen are not allowed to attend, even as guests.

Senior Activities (continued)

Graduation Practice

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024

Time: 1 p.m. until approximately 3 p.m.

Location: Bishop Chatard Gymnasium

Any senior who wishes to participate in the Commencement ceremonies must attend the practice, unless excused by an administrator of the school.

Baccalaureate Mass

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m. (Seniors must be at school with their gown (no cap) by 5:45 p.m.)

Location: Bishop Chatard Gymnasium

Attire: Dress Code for Specific Senior Dress Up Days

The Baccalaureate Mass marks the end of each senior's high school experience in thanksgiving to God for all the blessings they have received, and in prayer for God to be with them as they continue on toward higher education and careers. Any senior who wishes to participate in the Commencement ceremonies must attend the Mass, unless otherwise excused by the principal and/or president.

Commencement Ceremony

Date: Sunday, May 19, 2024

Time: 2:30 p.m. (Seniors must be at school with their cap and gown no later than 1:45 p.m.)

Location: Bishop Chatard Gymnasium

Attire: See below

Participation in the Commencement ceremony is a privilege. Students who earn this privilege have completed the work required and conducted themselves in a way that befits the values promoted by the school.

Please Note: Admission to Commencement is by ticket only. The number of tickets that each senior will receive is determined by the size of the class and the capacity of the facility. For the Class of 2024, each student will receive 6 tickets. The school does not provide extra tickets. If a senior needs additional tickets, he or she may talk with other seniors and obtain tickets from classmates who are not using their full complement. The tickets are given to the senior at graduation practice, and it is up to him or her to work out arrangements where there are custodial and non-custodial parents.

Commencement Information

Graduation Announcements

In mid-October, Bishop Chatard's diploma company, Herff-Jones, will contact you with information regarding graduation announcements and other keepsake items that may be purchased. Orders for these items are placed in early November. **These items are not included in the graduation fee**, and there is no obligation to purchase them.

The announcements are not invitations to the Commencement ceremonies. Graduation announcements are typically sent to out-of-town relatives and friends who would not attend the Commencement ceremonies, but may like to send a congratulatory note or gift to the senior. The school has chosen the style of the announcements, and name cards personalized for the graduating senior can be purchased to insert inside the announcements. The company also offers items such as photo albums, picture frames and thank you notes. Again, all of these items are optional and there is no obligation to purchase them.

Graduation Fee

The graduation fee of \$150 will automatically be billed to you as part of the tuition and fees for senior year.

The fee is used for the following:

- Diploma covers and printing of diploma inserts;
- Rental of caps and gowns;
- Program printing for the Baccalaureate Mass;
- Decorations and program printing for the Commencement ceremonies.

Dress Codes for Specific Senior Dress Up Days

The following dress codes apply to the Living Rosary, Grandparent's Mass, Baccalaureate Mass, Commencement, and in-school Senior Masses held throughout senior year. Any questions about the appropriateness of attire for senior dress up days can be brought to Mr. Hasty prior to the event at jhasty@bishopchatard.org.

Living Rosary

Boys:

- Solid white shirt and tie (sports jacket or suit jacket is worn only for the Living Rosary), dark dress pants with a belt (pants should be navy blue, black or charcoal), dark colored socks and dress leather shoes. Boys should be groomed and clean-shaven. No facial jewelry.

Girls:

- Option A: A dark, solid color (navy blue, black or charcoal) dress with sleeves or wide (3+ inches) straps (no strapless dresses, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines or backless dresses). No dresses that have large slits (a 2 - 3 inch slit is fine), uneven hemlines, or are too tight or form fitting. The hem of the dress must extend to the top of the kneecap.
- Option B: A loose-fitting (not transparent) white or black top or blouse (with sleeves) and dark slacks. No Capri or tight-fitting slacks, yoga pants or leggings.
- Option C: A loose-fitting (not transparent) white or black top or blouse (with sleeves) and classic A-line dark solid skirt. The skirt must not be tight-fitting. The hem of the skirt must extend to the top of the kneecap. A small slit (2 - 3 inches) is acceptable.
- Hair should be well-groomed. No facial jewelry or large dangling earrings. Dress shoes are required (no sneakers). Shoes should be dark or neutral in color. Open-toed shoes are acceptable. No flip flops, clogs or boots. Flat or low-heeled shoes are required for Living Rosary.

Baccalaureate and Commencement

Boys

- Solid colored shirt and tie, dress pants with a belt, dark colored socks, and dress leather shoes. Boys should be groomed and clean-shaven; no facial jewelry or earrings. No shorts allowed.

Girls

- Skirts, dresses or dress pants with the following guidelines:
 - No denim, jeans, or skinny pants.
 - Skirts and dresses should not be shorter than 2 inches above the top of the knee.
 - Skirts and dresses must not be skin tight or form-fitting. No more than 3 inch slit.
 - Shirts should not be low cut, sheer or transparent, or skin-tight or form fitting.
 - Shoes - Flats or low-heeled, comfortable shoes are suggested.

Senior Dress Codes (continued)

Senior In-School Dress Up Days

Students should observe modesty when dressing up for Senior Masses (that take place during the school day), including Grandparents Mass.

Boys:

- Shirt and tie, collared shirt, polo shirt or sweater (no t-shirts) are acceptable. Students who choose to wear a shirt and tie must wear their shirt tucked-in and a belt.
- Dress pants or khakis are appropriate. Pants should not have holes or rips. Jeans are not acceptable.
- Dress shoes are preferred

Girls:

- Shirts or sweaters must not be sheer, low-cut or form-fitting. Please do not expose bare shoulders.
- Skirts and dresses must be no shorter than two inches above the top of the knee.
- Colored jeans (not denim blue) with no holes or rips are acceptable, but must be worn with a modest length shirt. Yoga pants are not acceptable.
- Low-heeled shoes are suggested

If you are in doubt about what is appropriate or acceptable, please consult with an administrator or a teacher before Mass. Students who do not follow this outline run the risk of losing future dress up privileges. Administration will be holding separate meetings for senior girls and senior boys to discuss expectations.

Senior Pictures

We are pleased to have Sarah Shields of Sarah Shields Photography (sarahshieldsphotography.com) offer her services as our senior photographer. All students in the Class of 2024 MUST have their yearbook photo taken by Sarah Shields. Photos will be scheduled on November 1, 2, 4 and 6 in the Bishop Chatard SBC Conference room. Details will be sent to parents and seniors in the first weeks of school to sign up for their senior yearbook portrait. There is a \$35 sitting fee for the portrait. More detailed information about the yearbook photo and portrait packets will be distributed once school starts.

Students must follow the school dress code when taking their yearbook picture.

Girls should wear dresses, sweaters, or blouses. Strapless, low necklines, and spaghetti straps are not permitted. Any colors are allowed, but bold prints take away from the student's portrait.

Boys should wear a dress shirt, tie, sport coat or suit and be clean shaven. No facial hair or earrings.

Campus Ministry

Senior Discipleship Retreat

Dates:

- August 23 - 25, 2023
- November 29 - December 1, 2023
- January 17 - 19, 2024
- February 7 - 9, 2024

The Discipleship retreats have two main areas of focus: discernment and discipleship. Discernment is a process of holy decision making, and we want to equip the seniors to make prayerful and sound decisions as they go forth from Bishop Chatard. “Which college should I attend?” “Should I enter a trade or the military?” “Am I called to give my life to God and the Church as a religious sister or brother?” “What is God asking me to do with my life?” These questions and more can be answered as the fruit of prayerful and intentional discernment.

Discipleship means having a mature, adult faith in Jesus Christ. In a few months, seniors will no longer be taking theology classes or going to daily Mass on Thursdays at Bishop Chatard. How will a relationship with Christ and a commitment to the Church be a priority in the next phase of their lives? We hope to provide concrete tools for our students to continue actively engaging with their faith long after graduation.

The Discipleship retreats will be three days long (two overnights) and packed with fun and meaningful activities. These retreats take place at St. Joseph Retreat Center in Tipton, IN and occur throughout the school year to accommodate for the schedules of busy seniors. Faculty, staff and BCHS alumni will help make these retreats successful. Retreats are an essential part of being a Bishop Chatard student and all seniors are expected to attend. Any student who has concerns about participating in their class retreat is encouraged to reach out to Campus Ministry to discuss this. Over and over again, students tell us how much they appreciated their retreat after being hesitant to attend.

Additional information about Campus Ministry be found on our website at <https://www.bishopchatard.org/ministry>.

Academics

Receiving a Diploma

Requirements

In order to receive a diploma from Bishop Chatard High School, students are required to:

- Complete a total of 8 semesters in high school;
- Successfully complete the academic requirements for either a Core 40 (48 credits) or Core 40 with Academic Honors diploma (55 credits) while maintaining a GPA of 2.0 or higher;
- Meet the requirements for Indiana's graduation pathways.

Clarifications

Any student who does not pass all required courses will not be permitted to participate in Commencement ceremonies. As soon as the school receives official notification that the work has been successfully completed, the school will send a diploma.

If a student completes all of the necessary requirements, but is involved in any major violation of the school rules, he or she may not be permitted to participate in the Commencement ceremonies. Any such decision will be made by the administration after recommendation from the Discipline Board. The student is entitled to a diploma if he or she completed the requirement, however, he or she does not have the right to participate in Commencement.

Unless excused by the principal, any senior who does not attend the graduation practice may not participate in the Commencement ceremonies. All tuition and fees must be paid to receive a diploma and final grades.

All tuition and fees must be paid to receive a diploma and final grades.

We realize that it is a heart-wrenching experience for a senior not to be able to participate in Commencement, but these policies were developed in justice to the many seniors who have worked long and hard towards graduation. Bishop Chatard reserves the right to establish policies concerning a student's participation.

PowerSchool

Bishop Chatard uses PowerSchool as its student management system. PowerSchool is a web-based student information system that creates a collaborative environment for parents, teachers and students. PowerSchool provides parents and students with anytime, anywhere access to student progress, enabling students to take more accountability for their own learning and overall academic performance.

College Planning

Important Dates

- **August 1** is the first day that seniors can submit applications and request transcripts. To request transcripts, students must move colleges to the “applying” or “applied” column in the Scoir “My Colleges” list. Once they do that, their counselor will be notified that they need transcripts for those schools.
- **August - October** is the time to watch priority deadlines for university applications very carefully. Almost all universities, including IU and Purdue, have priority deadlines in the fall.
- **October 3** is the date of the Bishop Chatard Living Rosary. Many seniors take this opportunity to visit nearby colleges after dismissal from the Rosary.
- **October 11** is Campus Visit Day for seniors. Admissions offices tend to receive many requests for campus visits on this day. Call and schedule your student’s visit early. It is PSAT testing day for all other students. The SAT will also be available to seniors who have yet to take the exam or wish to improve their score.
- **October 18** is the final request date for all E-transcripts, ESSR, and scholarship applications to be processed prior to November 1. You must also request test scores to be sent to each school directly from ACT/College Board.
- **May 1** is National College Decision Day. You must submit a deposit to your school of choice to hold your spot in the incoming class.

***Note: The timeline for filing your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is different this year. The application will be available in December 2023. Your child must file in order to be eligible for both Indiana and Federal Student Aid.*

SAT 2023 - 2024 (Find testing locations and register at www.collegeboard.com. BCHS code is 151654.)

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Register By</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>
August 27	July 29	August 16
October 1	September 2	September 20
November 5	October 7	October 25
December 3	November 3	November 22
March 11	February 10	February 28
May 6	April 7	April 25
June 3	May 4	May 23

ACT 2023 - 2024 (Find testing locations and register at www.act.org. BCHS code is 151654.)

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Register By</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>
September 10	August 5	August 19
October 22	September 16	September 30
December 10	November 4	November 11
February 11	January 6	January 20
April 15	March 10	March 24
June 10	May 5	May 19
July 15	June 16	June 23

Applying for College

Essays

Essays are not required for all applications. These were written in your child's junior English class. Specifics for essay topics will be on the application. Remind your students to take their time and dedicate some time to writing a great essay with ***absolutely no grammatical or spelling errors!*** Students can always ask their English teacher or counselor to proofread college essays.

The Common Application (www.commonapp.org)

Many colleges, but not all, accept the common application. Specific college websites will let you know; there is also a list of schools on the common app website. Students complete the common application online, then send it to as many schools as they like. An essay is required and different schools have different policies regarding recommendation letters.

Counselor Recommendation Forms & ESSRs

Some colleges require their own form. Students need to read individual school's instructions and forward requests to the college counselor.

SAT/ACT

Colleges have a variety of test score requirements in their application process. It is very important that students check directly with each college and university to make sure they know the policy for each application they are sending. It is a student's responsibility to send scores from the testing service. Check the Important Dates on page 9 for SAT/ACT testing dates!

****Note - If a student is retaking the SAT/ACT this fall and has already applied to colleges in August, he or she needs to send new scores directly to those colleges.

If a student qualifies for an SAT/ACT waiver (free/reduced lunch), he or she also qualifies for college application fee waivers. See the college counselor, Abbey Saurine, for a fee waiver.

Prospective Student Athletes

Potential Division I or Division II athletes must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Test scores must be sent directly to the NCAA from the testing companies using the code 9999. To register and for more information go to <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

Students pursuing NAIA athletics must register with the NAIA Eligibility Center. Test scores must be sent directly to NAIA from the testing companies using the code 9876. To register and for more information go to <https://www.naia.org/findyourpath/highschool/index>.

Applying for College (continued)

Financial Aid - FAFSA - www.fafsa.ed.gov

There is no fee for completing and submitting the FAFSA. Visit fafsa.ed.gov for more detailed information. The FAFSA is changing for the 2024-2025 school year and is on track to be released by December 2023. We will send out information once the form is released. Please use the data retrieval tool for your 2022 taxes. It is recommended that you complete FAFSA as early as possible. College Financial Aid Info Night for BCHS senior parents will be held in conjunction with Progress Report Night.



Check the website often, especially the Senior Page and the Career and College Roadmap page for communications from our office, scholarship information, college rep visits, local college fairs and other useful information for your college search! You can find both of these pages in the Academics section of our website. Additionally, Scoir will have college checklists and helpful resources in your Scoir Drive. If you have any questions, please visit the Guidance Office.

***Follow College Counseling and scholarship news on Twitter
@BCHSCollege***

**★ Bring your Acceptance Letters to the Guidance Office! ★
Bring your Scholarship Award letters to the Guidance Office!**

College and Scholarships - Areas of Responsibility

Student

- Visit your school counselor often to keep them up-to-date with your plans.
- Check your Scoir account often for updates from your counselors, college visit days, etc.
- Check the Bishop Chatard website under Academics for the link to the Career and College Roadmap and the Senior Page, and check the websites of those colleges that interest you throughout the year for information on deadlines, scholarship opportunities, visit days, open houses, etc.
- Complete all scholarship and college applications online and in a timely manner. Allow 10 full working days for the processing of e-Transcripts, Electronic Secondary School Reports (ESSR), and recommendations.
- Know your deadlines and be courteous! Always request letters of recommendation from teachers in advance, at least 10 full working days.
- Bring documentation of scholarships and college acceptances to the guidance office.
- Visit the Guidance Office for helpful information on colleges, majors, careers, and college rep visits to BCHS.

College and Scholarships - Areas of Responsibility (continued)

Parent/Guardian

- Read every BCHS Weekly Parent Newsletter.
- Visit the Bishop Chatard website often under **Academics** for up-to-date information concerning your child and senior activities.
- Ask your child to add you on Scoir so that you receive scholarship notifications, communications from the college counselor and college visit notifications
- Remind your child of approaching deadlines! Help your senior keep track of college and scholarship applications, but do not complete applications for them.
- Provide credit card information, if necessary, for online applications.
- Encourage your child to write thank you notes to teachers who provide recommendations.
- Remind your senior to bring documentation of scholarships and college acceptances to the guidance office.

College Counselor

- Provide advice and direction on post-secondary options.
- Post and update information on rep visits, colleges, scholarships and deadlines on the Bishop Chatard website.
- Process transcripts, ESSR, and letters of recommendation when requested by the student and process within 10 working days.
- Post all scholarship and college acceptance information at the end of each grading period.

Health

Meningococcal Vaccine Requirement

Timely attention to senior vaccines is important, especially the Meningococcal vaccines. There are 2 different meningococcal vaccines (MCV4 and Meningococcal B).

1. Seniors are **REQUIRED** to have 2 MCV4 vaccines prior to the start of his or her Senior year.
Note: individuals who receive dose 1 on or after the 16th birthday only need 1 dose of MCV4, per the Indiana State guidelines.
2. Meningococcal B vaccinations are “recommended” for Senior year, however most colleges and universities require the 2 shot series prior to admission.

The complete list of required vaccines can be found at www.in.gov/doe/files/2023-24-Indiana-Immunization-School-Requirements-final.pdf. If your senior has not received all required vaccinations, please make arrangements to get these vaccines and forward proof of immunization to BCHS. Your child may bring immunization documentation to the Nursing office, or email documents to nurses@bishopchatard.org. Documents can also be faxed to 317-251-3648. County Health Departments can assist with these vaccinations.

Questions? Contact the School Nursing Office (Jeanne Agostino and Monica Meyer) at 317-251-1451 ext. 2245, or email nurses@bishopchatard.org.