



Year-End Event Schedule Class of 2026

What	When and Where	Details
Cap & Gown Distribution	Wednesday 4/22 A & B Lunch Media Center	Students must have a cap, gown, and tassel to be appropriately dressed for graduation activities. Additional items are available to order, but not required. Visit the Jostens website to order by Wednesday, 4/15.
Senior Dues	Wednesday 4/30	Senior dues for the Class of 2026 are \$62.50 and are collected to help pay for diploma covers and other graduation costs. This fee is mandatory and does not include caps, gowns, and tassels. Senior dues must be paid via the SchoolCash online portal .
Graduate Awards Practice	Wednesday 5/27 8 AM - 10 AM WFHS Main Gym	Attendance is mandatory. You should NOT wear your cap & gown. You will report to your 1 st period class and wait to be called down to the main gym. If you do not have a 1 st period class, report to the main gym no later than 7:45 AM.
Graduate Awards Ceremony	Thursday 5/28 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM WFHS Main Gym	Attendance is mandatory. You MUST wear your cap & gown. You will report to your 1 st period class and wait to be called down to your assigned location. If you do not have a 1 st period class, report to the auxiliary gym no later than 8 AM. You will not be allowed to carry bookbags, jackets, etc. with you into the ceremony. Do not bring them to school that day. Parents are invited to attend and encouraged to be seated by 8:20 AM.
Graduate Picnic	Thursday 5/28 After the Awards Ceremony WFHS Football Field	The picnic will take place immediately following the awards ceremony in the football stadium. The picnic is ONLY open to graduates and junior marshals. Seniors who ordered yearbooks may receive them if they have no outstanding fines or fees. Yard signs will also be available for pick up.
Exams	Tuesday 6/9 & Wednesday 6/10	Students in the 12th grade may be exempt from the final exam if they have (1) earned a final grade of B or higher AND (2) accumulated ten or fewer absences. All absences – excused, unexcused, college visits, etc. – count equally when considering eligibility for exam exemption. Exam exemption does NOT apply to classes with an EOC or other state-mandated test, including CTE.
Graduation Practice	Thursday 6/11 1 PM - 3 PM WFHS Main Gym	Attendance is mandatory. You should NOT wear your cap & gown. Be on time and plan to stay for the duration. Students who miss practice (1) will not be issued graduation tickets and (2) will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. Each graduate will receive nine tickets. Tickets will not be distributed to anyone who has outstanding fines/fees – including senior dues. There will not be any extra tickets. If you find that you need more, you will need to speak to other members of your graduating class.

Wake Forest High School Graduation Ceremony
Monday 6/15 @ 4:00 PM
Raleigh Convention Center



Tickets

- Tickets will not be distributed to anyone who has outstanding fines/fees - **including senior dues, library fines, missing/damaged English novels, and missing Chromebooks.**
- Each graduate will receive nine tickets.
- There will not be any extra tickets. If you find that you need more, you will need to speak to other members of your graduating class.

Arrival

- **Graduates will need to arrive by 3 PM.** Allow plenty of time for your travel to the convention center. Traffic on Capital Boulevard and in downtown Raleigh tends to be heavy.
- Carpooling is encouraged, as parking may be limited. You must pay for the vast majority of parking near the Raleigh Convention Center.
- Graduates who arrive late will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Dress Code

- You **MUST** wear your cap & gown.
- Write your name with a dark marker on the inside of your graduation cap. You will need to show it in order to claim your diploma at the end of the graduation ceremony.
- You may not decorate your graduation cap or wear cords/stoles that were not issued by Wake Forest High School.
- Do not bring bulky personal items with you. There will not be a place to secure such items during graduation and they are not allowed in the processional or on stage.
- Attire should be appropriate for a formal occasion. Neutral trousers/slacks, button down shirts with a tie, dresses, skirts, and blouses are acceptable. Jeans, polo shirts, t-shirts, shorts, and hats are not permitted.
- Footwear should be appropriate for a formal occasion - dress shoes or sandals in a neutral color. Sneakers, boots, and flip flops are not permitted. For safety reasons, it is **HIGHLY** recommended that you wear shoes with a heel strap and moderate to low heel. There will be concrete floors and several sets of stairs to navigate during the processional.
- Students who refuse to comply with these guidelines will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. If you have any questions or need assistance procuring the required items, please see Assistant Principal Woodley (rwoodley@wcpss.net) or Mrs. Kiger (akiger@wcpss.net).

Parents & Guests

- Raleigh Convention Center staff will admit parents and guests approximately 45 minutes before the ceremony begins.
- All parents and guests, including children, must have a ticket in order to attend.
- Graduation is a general admission event. Saving seats is not permitted and security will not allow it.
- The following items are prohibited from entering the Raleigh Convention Center: food, drinks, flowers in glass vases, signs, balloons, noise makers, wrapped packages, and counterfeit tickets.
- Accessible parking and seating will be available.
- CADY Studios will photograph the moment each graduate receives a diploma. Ordering information will be distributed at graduation practice and made available on the school website.
- WCPSS will livestream the event. A link will be made available on the school website.