

Overhills High School Senior Handbook

Class of 2021



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SECTION 1: SENIOR INFORMATION



Senior Sponsors

The Senior sponsors are the adults who work most closely with seniors. These fine individuals will be your homeroom teachers and will help coordinate senior activities and graduation. If at any point you have questions about senior information, these are the teachers you need to see or contact Ms. Pevler (jpevler@harnett.k12.nc.us).

Senior Dues

Senior dues pay for senior activities as well as all costs for graduation. Your dues are **\$40** and need to be paid to Ms. Pevler or online through OSP. You will not be able to participate in senior events or attend senior events or Prom unless they are paid. It is in your best interest to pay dues early and get them out of the way.

Senior Activities

Throughout the year, seniors will have the opportunity to participate in “seniors only” events. Please keep in mind that “Senior Skip Day” is NOT on the list of senior privileges sponsored by your school.

- ☆ **Senior Committee Nominations:** Senior Committee members will be selected from each homeroom. You will help plan senior events and this is a year-long commitment. See Ms. Pevler for more information.

- ☆ **Prom:** Don't miss out on a great night of friends, fun, and dancing on Friday, May 7th! Mark your calendars and get a date! This is a night you don't want to miss.

- ☆ **Individual Cap and Gown Portrait:** Lifetouch will be at OHS March 18th (Gentlemen) and 19th (Ladies) for individual portraits. Participation is optional.

- ☆ **Group Cap and Gown Picture:** LifeTouch will be at OHS April 29th to take the group cap and gown picture. You won't want to miss out on joining the class of 2021! Make sure that you've ordered and paid for your cap and gown by then.

- ☆ **Prom:** Don't miss out on a great night of friends, fun, and dancing on Friday, May 7th! Mark your calendars and get a date! This is a night you don't want to miss.

- ☆ **Senior Awards Night:** This is our annual scholarship and awards night. We want to celebrate your achievements; please notify your guidance counselor of any monies you receive for your further educational pursuits in the spring. This ceremony takes place in late May in the evening in the OHS auditorium; families are encouraged to attend with their senior.

- ☆ **Graduation Practice:** This is a mandatory rehearsal of the graduation ceremony. You must be present if you plan to walk across the stage. The rehearsal will be held at OHS in the auditorium. You will receive your graduation tickets at the conclusion of practice. Don't be late! Graduation practice will start at 8am.

Senior Portraits



Your senior year is a very important one; you'll want to capture these memories and hold on to them for a lifetime. The portrait sessions are held here at OHS on the dates provided or in Fayetteville at the LifeTouch office. Overhills is slotted for the dates of August 12-13, 2020. There will be make-ups offered at OHS in the fall, but these pale in comparison to the real thing. Make-ups dates are set as September 24th and 25th; sign up for an appointment using the link posted in Classroom or on the Senior Page. If you have questions, contact LifeTouch at

910-425-0290. You are not required to purchase anything, but only Prestige Portrait pictures are eligible for the yearbook.



Graduation Apparel and Supplies

OHS partners with Herff-Jones for all your graduation supplies and needs. The Herff-Jones representative will visit campus with a presentation of their items available for purchase. **The cap and gown unit is required for participation in the graduation ceremony** and the company will have many other items to order including announcements and attire if you choose. Herff-Jones will host order days on campus so you may place your order in person. Graduation items will be distributed in the spring. Do not wait until the last minute to order!

Early Grads

Kudos to those of you who are able to finish early! While you are gone, we do not want you to miss out on important information and events so you need to take the initiative to keep informed. Senior information will be posted on the [Senior Page](#) and into the 2021 Google Classroom. Parents are encouraged to check the Senior Page for updates too.

Senior Yearbook Ads

Many of you will want to purchase Senior Yearbook Ads. If you have questions or need to turn in money or materials, you need to see Mrs. Brown (Room B228). Please see the next few pages for information about these ads. Please pay special attention to deadlines so that you ensure your ad is awesome!

OVERHILLS CLASS OF 2021

Senior Recognition Page Information for the Yearbook

The yearbook staff is able to create personalized senior recognition pages that will be printed in your child's senior yearbook for everyone to see. Jostens also makes it possible with their easy software and template selection for you to create the senior recognition page. There are different templates to accommodate *many* styles and budgets. You can send us pictures or upload pictures of anything you like: dance recitals, sporting events, family members, childhood, and friends—anything tasteful or you can create it. [Here are the basic guidelines and deadlines for your child's senior page:](#)

- Senior Recognition pages may be purchased online at www.jostens.com.
- If you plan to have the yearbook staff create your senior's recognition page please email us at ohsyearbook@harnett.k12.nc.us with the information you want placed on the recognition page - submit your favorite picture(s), type what you would like to tell your graduate in your special message(s). **TURN IN ALL MATERIALS TOGETHER;** we will not add messages or photos later. The **final deadline date Jan. 31.**
- If you wish to purchase a senior recognition page without paying online, you may send the money in. We accept cash or money orders. Digital submission of your information is preferable, but if you have hard copies, please send those in with payment in an envelope with your student's name and 3rd block teacher.

We will not cut, bend, fold, or harm your pictures in any way, and these pictures will be returned to your graduate as soon as we are finished with your page (your graduate may also pick them up from the yearbook staff/adviser in room B228). If there is a certain picture you would like to be the big, "stand out" picture, please indicate this on the back of the chosen photo. You may also number your photos to go with the template you choose. If your graduate's full name is not written on the back of EVERY photo, there is no guarantee that they will be returned. We get thousands of photos.

Also, we can keep senior ads a secret, and this is a fantastic idea for a **graduation present**. These pages are open to family members and friends who would like to honor their special senior.

*Pricing and Deadlines

	Aug. 17 - Nov. 30	Dec. 1 - Feb. 1
Full Page Recognition	\$160	\$175
Half Page Recognition	\$90	\$110
Quarter Page Recognition	\$60	\$80
Business Card Recognition	\$40	\$60

Thank you in advance for your contributions, and congratulations to you and your soon-to-be high school graduate! **ORDER YOUR 2021 YEARBOOK FOR \$60 PLUS TAX until DECEMBER 31, 2020. Prices increase as of JANUARY 1, 2021 to \$70.**

Order yearbooks here: www.jostens.com

For more information, contact Mary Brown at mbrown1@harnett.k12.nc.us or see her in room B228.

2020-2021 Important Senior Dates for Yearbook

- ✓ **Tuesday and Wednesday, August 12-13:** Summer Senior Portraits will be taken in the auditorium (formals). If you miss your summer appointment or are new to OHS, call Prestige for an appointment to take casual photos: 910-425-0290.
- ✓ **Monday, August 25 - September 30:** Yearbooks will go on sale beginning at \$55. The price will increase throughout the year. This will be the lowest price and it is for a limited time.
- ✓ **Thursday and Friday, September 24-25:** Senior Portrait retakes will be offered through LifeTouch. Sign up for an appointment using the link in the Senior Classroom.
- ✓ **If you miss this deadline** call Prestige for an appointment to take your formal and casual photos: 910-425-0290. You will not be in the senior section of the yearbook if you do not have these taken; *only Prestige portraits can appear in the senior section* per contract agreement. **Please book your appointment in advance to get portraits taken; we are not responsible for limited/no appointment availability.**
- ✓ **Friday, January 31:** Senior Recognition pages are due. Any senior recognition page not completed by this date will not be published in the yearbook.
- ✓ **Friday, February 14:** This is the last day to order a **Personalized Yearbook**. Jostens gives you the chance to personalize the yearbook with your student’s name, icons, and badges of their accomplishments and interests.
- ✓ **Friday, April 10:** This is the last day to pre-order a yearbook. The online site will be shut down at this time for pre-orders of the yearbook. Yearbooks will be available after delivery on a first-come, first-buy basis. There will be a limited number available for sale.
- ✓ Yearbook Pricing Tier -

Aug. 25 - Sept. 30	Oct. 1 - Nov. 29	Dec. 1 - Jan. 31	Feb 1 - April 10	Released
\$55	\$60	\$65	\$70	\$75

* You may order a yearbook online: www.jostens.com (Overhills High School):

Contact Mary Brown (room B228) if you have questions or concerns. mbrown1@harnett.k12.nc.us



SECTION 2: ACADEMICS



Graduation Requirements

You have one main job in your senior year: make sure you have the credits to get your diploma! Below you will see the credits that you must have in order to walk across that stage in June.

- 4 English (English 1, 2, 3, and 4)
- 4 Math credits (Math 1, 2, 3, plus foundations or upper-level math)
- 3 Science credits (Earth Science, Biology, Physical Science or Chemistry)
- 4 History credits (World History, American History 1 & 2, and Civics) (World, AP World, APUSH, and Civics)
- 1 Health & PE credit
- 12 elective credits
- CPR certification

If you plan to attend a 4-year college or university, you must also have two years of foreign language.

To qualify for graduation, you must have a total of 26 credits. Please make sure that you are using your time and resources wisely in order to accomplish your goals. Your guidance counselors will work closely with you to make sure that you are registered and scheduled for the appropriate courses.

Attendance Requirements

As a senior, it is imperative that you understand the attendance requirements at OHS. You are allowed no more than 7 absences in any course. If you have more than those 7 absences, you will be in danger of failing the course. Please make sure that you are diligent in complying with the attendance requirements.

NOTE: Attendance will count for Remote Learners!!

FUTURE PLANS UPON GRADUATION

- Plan now!! Use resources to help you: ***Overhills Student Services website*** with TONS of college, career, and scholarship information, Mrs. Henry (Room B203) for career counseling/job shadowing, Mrs. Lane our CCCC liaison (Room D216) for Career and College Promise, Mrs. Holt (Room C208) our Student Advocate, and your school counselor (by last name)
- Talk to parents, teachers, recruiters (if applicable), counselors, and people in the workforce to help you with your goals and plans
- Your counselor will be talking with each senior individually about his or her future plans. If you are undecided, please make sure you let your counselor know this during your senior conference, and they will help you develop a plan and get started!
- In May a survey will be posted in the Senior Google Classroom for you to share your future plans with Guidance your future plans. It is **very important** that you complete this form because this will inform counselors where to send your final transcript!

COLLEGE PLANS

- Match future education with your career goals.
- Research colleges (www.cfnc.org, www.collegeboard.org, college fairs/visits/websites, etc.) and choose those that best match your criteria and for which you qualify--- if you meet the GPA or SAT/ACT requirements, etc.
- **SAT/ACT**---try to take one of these at least twice by the December testing. Register NOW! To register for the SAT <http://sat.collegeboard.org/register>. For the ACT registration www.actstudent.org. Use our **school code: 343701**.
 - Please visit ACT/SAT websites for a list of upcoming exam dates
 - Fee waivers for ACT/SAT are in the Guidance Office for qualifying students. You can take practice tests using these sites prior to taking the actual exam. Other test prep can be found on the Guidance Department page.
 - ACT or SAT scores must be sent directly from SAT or ACT to colleges. Guidance Counselors **cannot** send your scores. When you register for the SAT/ACT, you can select up to 4 colleges that you would like to receive your scores for free. However, if you need other colleges to have your scores, you will need to request this at act.org or collegeboard.org and pay a small fee.
- Suggestion for choosing colleges to which you will apply: Include your dream school, one college you would be OK with and qualify for, and one for which you **know** you can be admitted and afford (College Board recommends 4 or more schools).
- Apply to your college choices. Online applications are preferred. Most colleges do require an application fee. Some waivers are available if needed. See your counselor for more information. Pay careful attention to follow all instructions and requirements when completing applications. Watch for spelling & grammar!
- **For four year colleges or universities, try to have applications submitted by December 1st**
- Transcripts may be requested from the Guidance Office or sent through CFNC.org (Be sure your information in CFNC is updated before sending your information to colleges).
- Online and Social Media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, email addresses, etc.) should be ready for college admission officers to view. That means to clean them up and keep them professional!
- Apply for scholarships and financial aid.
 - Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov to find out information about the FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Parents need to be aware of the deadlines, and this requires financial information like tax returns. However, it's absolutely necessary to help pay for college!
 - Visit the Overhills guidance page for links to scholarships; apply where you are eligible.
- Start working on your essays and applications NOW! Your senior year is busy. If you get a jump on this now, you will be better off in the long run. Some colleges require more essays and writing than others. Plan ahead. It is also a good idea to start thinking about who you want to write your letters of recommendation. You will want to give your recommenders plenty of time to complete the essays and you also want to provide them with lots of information so they can thoroughly recommend you. Below you will find a sample recommendation request form. Complete this and give it to the teachers you ask to complete recommendations.

SAMPLE REQUEST FOR RECOMMENDATION

NAME _____ **Grade** _____ **Contact #** _____

Date Needed _____

Name of Scholarship or College for which you wish to be considered _____

For your BEST teacher/counselor recommendation, please complete the information below. Feel free to add anything of importance about you that has not been asked. This form is being used for both college recommendation requests and for scholarship consideration.

1. What 6 words best describe you?

2. What is your career goal and why?

3. What are your 3 greatest strengths? (You can list more.)

4. What is a difficulty you have overcome and how did you accomplish this?

5. What do you consider to be your most significant contribution to date in its value to your school or larger community? Why was it important to others? To you?

6. Describe an undertaking in which you demonstrated leadership. What circumstances prompted your involvement? How did you go about it? What did you learn from your shortcomings and successes?

7. What accomplishments are you most proud of and why?

8. What do you feel is really important to know about you? What would you like colleges and scholarship committees to note about you?

9. Anything else you would like to share about you, your background, your goals, your challenges, your passions,?

SAMPLE REQUEST FOR RECOMMENDATION (cont)

Academic Info

GPA Weighted _____ Unweighted _____ Rank _____

Best SAT score (reading and math) _____ Writing _____

Best ACT score _____

High School Activities and Honors

Please list any offices/leadership positions held in the appropriate grade. Check the box for any year of participation.

	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Band				
Beta Club				
Student Government				
Science Olympiad				
FBLA				
FFA				
FCCLA				
Yearbook				
ROTC Drill Team				
Robotics				
FCA				
Latin Dance				
Chorus				
Assistant				
Peer Tutor				
Other				

Community Service: (List what you did, when, and how many hours served for each project/event/activity)

High School Honors and Awards:

High School Athletics and Honors

Please list any leadership positions held in the appropriate grade. Check the box for any year of participation.

Sport	9th	10th	11th	12th
Baseball				
Softball				
Basketball				
Football				
Soccer				
Wrestling				
Cross Country				
Track				
Golf				
Tennis				
Volleyball				
Cheerleader				
Swimming				
Bowling				
Marksmanship				
Other				

Athletic Honors and Awards:

Please visit the [Student Services Webpage](#) for access to all of this information and more. Have a wonderful Senior Year!!



SECTION 3: THE BIG DAY



Graduation! You have waited and worked 13 long years for this moment!

June 3d, 2021

Time: TBA

All graduates should be in their assigned seats in the auxiliary gym at Campbell University's Convocation Center by the designated time. **You will not be allowed to enter the ceremony after the graduates have started marching.**

- ★ Traffic is heavy and parking is tough - **GET THERE EARLY!** If we are scheduled after another school, we will also have to deal with the traffic exiting. Please plan accordingly! Carpool as much as possible.
- ★ **DO NOT FORGET YOUR GOWN, CAP, STOLE, or TASSEL!**
- ★ No bags will be allowed into the convocation center (auxiliary gym or on the floor), so you should leave them in your car or with your parents.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Graduation announcements are NOT tickets to graduation. Tickets will be distributed at graduation practice only. The number of tickets will be decided by the county office and will be shared in the spring. Make sure you give the tickets to the appropriate individuals before your arrival at graduation. **Do not lose your tickets. They will not be replaced.** Everyone must have a ticket (regardless of age) in order to enter the graduation ceremony.

APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR GRADUATION

1. **No** tennis shoes, flip flops, jeans, or shorts are to be worn.
2. **Males.** Dress slacks and shirt with a collar. Ties are nice but not required. You want to look your best. This is your time to shine.
3. **Females.** Dresses, skirts, dress slacks with a dress shirt (remember, the collar will show), comfortable, yet dressy shoes.
4. Hats are to be worn **FLAT** on the top of your head. Your tassel should be on the **right** and it will be turned to the left. **DO NOT DECORATE THE TOP OF YOUR CAP!**
5. Stoles, tassels, etc. which are earned from clubs, organizations, etc. may only be worn with caps and gowns **if** they have been endorsed and approved by the principal. **Non-school affiliated items are not allowed.**

Diplomas

You will receive your diploma on the day of graduation. During the ceremony, you will only receive your cover. Your diploma will be in a folder, along with other important information and you will receive this after the ceremony.

“If I’d Only Known”Advice from Alumni

How to Make Sure You Have a Successful Senior Year

- Don’t miss school! Don’t skip—it’s time to grow up.
- Take everything seriously!
- Pass all your classes. Don’t fall behind. Do your homework.
- Enjoy the senior activities. Enjoy your year!
- Listen to announcements.
- Don’t procrastinate.
- Do your work ASAP because due dates are closer than they appear.
- School comes first—don’t get senioritis too soon. This year still counts. Colleges ask for your final transcript and even your last semester grades matter!
- Don’t do anything stupid!
- Participate in everything this year! Prom and graduation will be your most memorable moments!
- Be involved!
- Save up money for your senior supplies like your cap and gown.
- Don’t get lazy!
- Pay attention!
- Stay out of trouble. Know when it’s time to play and when it’s time to work.
- Don’t copy and paste!
- Don’t give up or let anyone or anything get in your way.
- There is a college for everyone. Don’t say you can’t go.
- Apply for college early and get things done! Don’t wait until the last minute!
- Be proud of your post-high school plans.
- The habits you create now are the habits you take with you into your job and career. Would YOU hire YOU?
- Don’t be the annoying, childish senior no one will miss.
- Take advantage of all the help your teachers and guidance counselors give you.
- Don’t blink! It’s going to fly by.