

Graduation Cap Decoration Guidelines

Decorations on graduation caps (mortarboards) are a symbol of pride and accomplishment. The decorations represent positive, personalized statements about accomplishments and future hopes and dreams. They are presented in the form of quotes, images, and/or symbols.

Should you decide to decorate your graduation cap, ***YOU MUST DECORATE ON A SQUARE PIECE OF CARDBOARD instead of the actual top of the hat.*** You will stick the decoration to your cap with double-sided tape or Velcro stickers on graduation evening. YOU will be responsible for purchasing a new hat if you mess up yours. Jostens will have a limited number of extra hats at graduation for \$10.00. ***BCHS will NOT furnish new caps.***

Please take into consideration the following expectations when decorating your graduation cap.

******Students WILL NOT be allowed to participate in the ceremony without a cap and gown.******

APPROPRIATE decorations include:

- Thanking a parent, grandparent, teacher, friend
- Recognizing the university you will be attending
- Recognizing the branch of the military you will be joining
- Recognizing the career path you will be pursuing
- Recognizing the correct graduation year

INAPPROPRIATE decorations include any that:

- Contain any advertisement, symbols, abbreviations, initials, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that refer to drugs or other controlled substances (including tobacco, tobacco substitutes, and alcohol), weapons, and/or are of a sexual nature
- Denote an affiliation with gangs or groups which advocate drug use, violence, illegal activity, or disruptive behavior which is detrimental to the safety and welfare of others
- Use obscene, profane, vulgar, racist, and/or lewd language
- Use inappropriate wording, abbreviations, and/or symbols
- Include numbers other than the current graduation year
- Threaten the safety and welfare of any person
- Include decorations hanging down from any side of the cap; Only the flat, top area of the mortar board may be decorated
- Include 3-D creations; Decorations must be flat on the surface of the cap

Decorated cardboard pieces will be approved or denied at graduation practice on May 26 before the graduation walk begins. No designs will be accepted after this time. The decorated cardboard will be collected and stored at BCHS to be redistributed Friday prior to graduation.

******Administration reserves the right to disallow anything that is not considered appropriate for the commencement ceremony.******