

March 2022

Dear Families of the Class of 2022,

Spring break is here and that means Graduation for the Class of 2022 and other important events are just around the corner! Knowing these next few months will be quite busy for all of us, I wanted to reach out with important details regarding these events planned at Hotchkiss for this May and June.

## *SENIOR DANCE*

The Senior Dance will take place on the evening of Sunday, 29 May, at Fairfield Farm on our beautiful campus. Senior Dance brings joy and excitement for our Seniors and their guests, and we are all looking forward to a return to much more normal festivities this year. We ask for the support of families with items like tuxedo rentals or special new outfits, corsages and boutonnieres, and of course tickets to the Dance itself; many of these items can be charged with your student's OneCard account. Those of you living nearby (or traveling to our vicinity) should feel free to join us for informal photo sessions at the send-off gathering held in the Main Circle on Sunday afternoon from 4:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.. If you live within easy driving distance and would like to volunteer to help set up decorations for the dance, contact Lisa Brown ([ebrown@hotchkiss.org](mailto:ebrown@hotchkiss.org)). Additional hands for set-up would be much appreciated.

## *GRADUATION EVENTS*

The week of Graduation is a busy one for all of us on campus. Seniors have many activities including Graduation rehearsals, a final class picnic hosted by the Head of School, and last projects, assignments, and performances. I invite you to [consult the Graduation 2022 page](#) under the Parent section on the School's website for more details surrounding these events. You will receive a digital invitation with registration details in late March. A printed flier will also be mailed at this time. Vaccinated family members and guests are invited to join the graduation events listed below. COVID testing will not be required prior to arrival on campus at this time.

It is a long-standing Graduation tradition at Hotchkiss that Seniors wear white dresses or blue blazers, white pants, a blue or white dress shirt, and a tie. Since very few shops near the School carry these items, we strongly urge you to purchase these clothes before you arrive on campus for Graduation.

For your planning purposes, please note the following dates. Due to limited seating availability, we ask each family to limit their guests for Thursday's events to four, plus your graduate. There is no limit, however, to the number of guests you may include for Graduation events on Friday. Please be sure to RSVP online giving the number in your party so we can prepare accordingly for all of our exciting Graduation festivities.

Thursday, 2 June\*:

2:00 p.m. – **Senior Music Recital** to be held in Katherine M. Elfers Hall in the Esther Eastman Music Center

4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. – **Baccalaureate** to be held in Katherine M. Elfers Hall in the Esther Eastman Music Center

# HOTCHKISS

Deans' Office

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – **Senior Dinner** to be held in Main Building and Outdoor Tents

7:30 p.m. – **Senior Awards and Cum Laude Ceremony** to be held in Katherine M. Elfers Hall in the Esther Eastman Music Center

*\*All Thursday events are limited to four vaccinated guests plus graduates*

Friday, 3 June\*:

10:00 a.m. – **Commencement Ceremony**, to be held on Harris House Lawn (weather permitting)

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – **Luncheon** to be held in Main Building and Outdoor Tents

*\*All Friday events can be attended by an unlimited number of vaccinated guests*

**By 4:00 p.m. or earlier on Friday, we expect that all Seniors will depart from campus** to allow the School to get back to the academic work of the second semester for the remaining students. Seniors will be asked to pack their belongings in the days prior to Graduation, and once final goodbyes are over, please finish packing and leave behind an empty, clean dormitory room. Seniors should not return to campus while School remains in session.

## *FINAL ITEMS*

Spring is an incredibly busy time at Hotchkiss, especially in the lead-up to and during Graduation week. Seniors are constantly traveling on and off campus to visit with family and friends during these final days. **It is important to note that all Major School Rules remain in effect for all Seniors until after they leave campus following Commencement.** In past years, some members of the graduating class have wished to gather for off-campus parties following Graduation. Such events are not organized or approved by the School. For the safety and well-being of your children, I encourage you to take an active role in planning or approving your own graduate's post-Commencement plans. I am certain that you join me in wishing that each graduate's transition from life at Hotchkiss to whatever comes next will be as safe and as smooth as possible.

The students have high expectations for the upcoming spring and many of their most cherished memories will be made over the course of the next weeks and months. Thank you for all of the support you have offered the School, your children, and me over the past few years. The experience would not have been whole without you.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (860-435-4441) or by email ([adambrosio@hotchkiss.org](mailto:adambrosio@hotchkiss.org)) at any time.

Best regards,



Andrew P. D'Ambrosio  
Dean of the Class of 2022