



## Graduation Timeline

Send all requested information to:  
[CoramDeoClassical@outlook.com](mailto:CoramDeoClassical@outlook.com)

Make Transcript Requests to:  
[CoramDeoClassical@outlook.com](mailto:CoramDeoClassical@outlook.com)

10 days notice is required to process transcript requests, so plan accordingly. *Failure to plan on your part does not constitute emergency on CDCS's part.*

School CEEB Code: **112363**

### August

- Bring the completed graduate information form and a check to the senior orientation meeting on the first day of school after parent training.
- Student and one parent should attend
- Announce speaker
- Choose Sr. Spokesman
- Senior Trips, if desired, are planned by the parents of seniors and *are not CDCS sponsored events.*

### January

- Please have 20 **pictures on a flash drive** to Mrs. Kinney by Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. Pictures should include one baby, one toddler or elementary, one activity, one family, one senior and 15 additional pictures of your choice.
- When you decide on your university, you may announce it by wearing your new school T-shirt one time this semester.

### February

- Be sure to approve your student's Sr. page in the yearbook by Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. See Mrs. Kinney for help with this.

### March

- Parent letter due to March 1. This letter should be no longer than 300-400 words. You may write a charge to your student or memories. It can be funny, sentimental, or both. Examples are attached.
- Seniors will select exit song and get it to us by March 30. This song can be fun within reason and must be approved by the administration.
- Honor graduates announced including Val/Sal
- Val and Sal will give speeches and should work with staff to have speeches approved by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Start planning parties and ordering announcements.

### April

- You will get your cap and gown to take home. Please try it on.
- Let us know how many guests you are expecting by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Let us know where you want your final transcripts sent. Please include an address.

### May

- You will be notified if you are eligible to omit any final exams. See handbook for details.

### Graduation Rehearsal

- Rehearsal is Wednesday before graduation at 12:30 pm. A parent needs to attend with your student. Plan to stay until we are done. This could be until 3:00 if necessary.
- Valedictorian and Salutatorian should come prepared to give their speeches that day.
- Jr. introducing student should come prepared to give the introduction
- Bring your cap and gown and the shoes you will wear.
- If you are not receiving a CDCS diploma please bring the diploma that you would like us to give your student.

### Graduation Ceremony

- Girls will wear modest dresses that hit the knee or below. No spaghetti straps or strapless dresses. Nice sandals or dress shoes are preferred.
- Boys will wear collared shirt, slacks and dress shoes. No tennis shoes allowed.
- Arrive by 6 pm to set up table and meet with Mrs. Tinsley.
- You will need a framed 8x10 Sr. Picture for your student's table. You might want to include a book for guests to sign, awards, medals, special table cloth (black will be provided), basket for cards or gifts, a pennant or acceptance letter from their college.
- Photographer will be at the ceremony and reception. Please feel free to take family pictures with your graduate.
- Parents will be sitting near the front in a reserved seat. Please make arrangements for your younger children.



## Graduate Information Form

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Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Student email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your student prefer to be contacted  
by Text or Email? \_\_\_\_\_

Slide Show Song Choice (60 seconds)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Artist: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name of graduate as you want it to appear on his/her *diploma*.  
(please print clearly)

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Full name of graduate as you want it to appear on his/her *transcript*.  
*This should match social security card for financial aid purposes. (please print clearly)*

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Height of graduate: \_\_\_\_\_

Gown size: \_\_\_\_\_ *Office use*

***Please include the graduation fee of \$150 with this form.***

This fee includes a diploma and cover, cap and gown, honor cords, transcripts, reception expenses, slide show production, and professional digital photos.

- *Transcripts are sent free of charge to colleges.*
- *Additional transcripts are available for \$5 per copy.*
- *Expedited transcripts might be available for a charge of \$20 each.*
- ***Please allow 10 business days when requesting a transcript.***

Signature of Parent: \_\_\_\_\_



Here are two examples of the perfect length

Dear Joshua,

Praise the Lord that He has brought you to this exciting milestone of your high school graduation! With the Lord's help, you have worked hard to arrive at this momentous day, and we are so thankful to call you our son. What a blessing it has been to watch you grow up into a young man who loves the Lord and His Word. Truly there is no greater joy than to know that you have given your heart to Christ and are seeking to follow Him all the days of your life.

Joshua, we are so grateful for the numerous ways we see Christ at work in your life! Your consistently cheerful attitude and willingness to serve others above yourself and without complaint are some that stand out to Dad and me. Likewise it has been a joy to watch you develop good and godly friendships over the years. I'll never forget the day long ago on the playground watching you call after some unknown child, "Friend, Friend!" May you continue to find true friends who love the Lord and encourage you to be more like Christ as you journey through life. And your love of music has added such richness to our home. It gives us great joy to hear you playing your guitar and singing to the Lord! We will miss those songs of praise coming from your corner of the house. May you continue to use your gifts to honor the Lord wherever He leads you. Joshua, we are so thankful for you and look forward to what the Lord has in store as you begin your next big adventure of college! Please know that we love you deeply and will pray for you daily as you leave this place and go to make your mark on the world for the glory of God.

All our love,  
Mom and Dad

Dear Danielle,

As we celebrate this happy occasion, we are deeply humbled and grateful for the Lord's kindness, in giving you to our family and in adopting you into His family. You are reaching this milestone of graduation in possession of a gift that is all too rare these days - and that is a happy childhood. We certainly know that you have gone through difficult trials. But overall, you have enjoyed a loving family, a healthy church, and a rich education during your first 18 years of your life. This is something you will draw upon most every day of your life. It is something that cannot be taken away from you in the future. We have no doubt that these blessings will only grow more precious to you as you grow older.

Your name means "God is judge" and for God to be your judge is no small matter. It is at once both sobering and comforting. It is sobering to have God as your judge, because He is righteous. His standards of right and wrong, wise and foolish, the standards by which He judges will never change, and He will always know and hold you accountable. At the end of the day (and at the end of your life) it doesn't ultimately matter how people judge you; it only matters how He judges you. It is comforting to have God as your judge because He is merciful. So merciful, in fact, that even though He pronounced you sinful and guilty, He personally served your sentence for you. Through His Son, the Lord Jesus, He suffered all your punishment, and there is none left for you. This truly is the best news that we could ever hear!

Congratulations on your graduation! This is, in large measure, a reward for all your hard work. We couldn't be more proud of you-not only for your academic success, but for the beautiful person you are -kind, wise, patient, and gracious. Because of the faithfulness of your Heavenly Father and his wise sovereignty over all things, we believe and agree with your favorite C.S. Lewis quote (which seems very appropriate for tonight ) "There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind."

May God be glorified in you, Danielle, on this special day and on every day He gives you!

All our love,  
Mom and Dad

This is an example of showing REAL life

Erin-it takes a special person to be in the middle of 9 people- you have 4 older sisters and 4 younger brothers. There is no doubt that God has used that to sanctify you and to bless your siblings. I am sure that they would all agree with me that we are grateful for your songs...yes, even jazz while doing the dishes, meals you have cooked (even if you have to eat the slightly burned soup at the bottom of the pot), helping pick out family movies that have historical meaning that we all enjoy, and driving the boys all over town (even if they were often nervous).

You have blessed us all as you learned to laugh at yourself, especially while doing math homework. You worked harder than I ever thought you could, and you saw it pay off. You have blessed us by your transparency-mainly by watching you model repentance after a disrespectful outburst or hearing you and Elijah work through apologetics from different points of view often not following the rules of conflict resolution. You have blessed us as we travel by always being excited about a museum or a concert when others simply weren't. Thanks for making the evening meals in Europe special with a simple, yet beautifully displayed dessert. Your love of and dedication to languages has opened up our narrow world.

Thank you for enjoying family. I love every minute that you are home. Our daily spiritual conversations have been such an encouragement to me. We are often faced with such assaults on our beliefs- it feels as if we are going into battle. But, you have the essential training and equipment for this battle. Your study of and our interactions about: apologetics, history, and culture has informed and fortified our faith together, and I know you will be a strong ally in the struggle to win hearts and minds for truth.

John Piper gave a commencement speech last weekend and probably coined a new term...Sacred Schizophrenia (.. we have 2 selves) For Christians, there will be a battle for the rest of our lives on earth between the two- Mark 8:34 speaks of denying self to be a follower of Jesus. So, there is obviously a "you" that is being denied and a "you" who does the denying. May I challenge you to follow the one that is true—is it the one who tries to save his own life? The one that seeks approval, honor, comfort, security and comfort? Or is it the one denies himself and takes up his cross daily? The cross stands for opposition, shame, suffering and death? The only self that can choose these things comes only from the new birth. Which "self" is true? The one who tells you foolish lies that a lifetime of human approval and the pleasures of this world are better than an eternity of undiminished, unparalleled joy in the presence of God. The old self is an illogical fool- don't die with him, live with God. In this life, will the old self ever be defeated? No- the battle will only be over when you only have self... that is in heaven.



This is an example of using humor but too long..

Lauren Grace Regier,

Was it really just yesterday we brought you home from the hospital knowing life for us had forever changed? I'll never forget that day in the maternity recovery room, mom and I chatting with the nurse, you lying angelic in the bassinette. Suddenly the nurse became wide-eyed, grabbed a bulb syringe, and suctioned your throat so you could breathe! You had begun choking on your saliva. Dumbfounded, I thought "You've got to be kidding me, you mean she can't even do her own breathing?! How are we going to keep her alive?"

Well, look at you now, all breathing on your own and everything! And though I wondered at times if you even HAD a conscience in your 4s and 5s, and thought hard time in the big house was in your future, God has been gracious and you have grown into a responsible, capable, competent, sweet, and refined young woman. We'd love to take the credit but it is all a work of God. In spite of our inconsistent and lame parenting you've turned into this amazingly wonderful person! It's been an awesome journey, but we got here waaaaay too fast - there was so much more we wanted to do!

Without question our greatest joy has been to see you come to repentance and learn to love and fear the Lord. Not that long ago you were struggling to know if God could be trusted with your whole life and if you wanted to live for Christ ...or chase after what First John calls the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life...the pleasures of this world. God graciously drew you to himself to see the surpassing greatness of His glory and the preciousness of His Son. And what comfort it gives us to know that we will enjoy fellowship with Christ -- and you, for all eternity.

And now tonight we celebrate this huge milestone. Yes HUGE. Graduating Coram Deo. You studied! You stuck it out when the tears flowed, you were physically exhausted, your mind was fatigued, and the light at the end of the tunnel was a distant flicker. You fought your craving for sleep, especially those late nights when Mom and Dad went to bed, and you soldiered on tired and alone, late into the morning, sometimes never going to bed. You focused, hunkered down, and battled through.

But it was worth it! A good education matters, and you've come by one of the best here at Coram Deo. It matters in that it enlarges your capacity to comprehend and savor God in a deeper, more satisfying way. To see his glory more clearly... and Lauren, that is truly the best thing in life.

Milestones like tonight *remind* us of the things that really matter. Life is short. Already about a fifth of yours has flown by! Life inexorably rushes toward a day when we will stand and give account to God. No amount of worldly excellence or achievement in education, business, employment, politics, or fame will benefit you in the least in that day. But, Jesus has promised you that if you will follow him on the narrow, often unpopular road, that he will reward you with 100 times as much in this life and ever more so in the life to come...and he adds joy and abundance to it. So give your life completely, without reservation to glorifying him.

Lauren, for us, you're it. You're our one shot. God graciously gave us just one child. So glad it turned out to be you! You have filled our home with blessing and joy and we're terrified of losing you to college and grown up life. And no doubt someday, way too soon, some unworthy young man will try to steal you away from us. Can't blame them for trying, I mean, you're fun, God-fearing, beautiful, and over the top smart. But as your dad and mom we promise we'll continue to act as absolutely dorky and uncool as possible to stave off that day for as long as we can!

Truth is, you have become our best friend... We miss you already, and our hearts are torn seeing you leave home. But it's a great comfort to know that your Lord and Savior is always with you as your most precious friend. Just know how deeply we love you too, and while we're so proud of you, we praise God for HIS fingerprints we see all over your life.

So we salute you - you Salutatorian, you! Now go, and make God's name great with all your might. If you do, you will be wildly successful, whether the world ever knows your name or not.

As Jim Elliot might have said to his daughter. "SHE is no fool who gives what SHE cannot keep to gain what SHE cannot lose". Remember II Chronicles 16:9 tells us that God is seeking to show himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are fully his. So the only sane thing to do is to give God everything.

With all our love,

Mom and Dad