



PICKENS HIGH SCHOOL

500 DRAGON DRIVE
JASPER, GA 30143

PHONE: (706)253-1800 • FAX: (706)253-1815



CHRIS WALLACE
PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:
MARLA CALLAHAN
DUANE CRONIC
CHRIS WILLIAMS

RICK GOBLE
CAREER, TECHNICAL &
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
DIRECTOR

August 31st, 2019

Today, the PHS Senior Class of 2019 was assembled to hear my solution to student concerns about the graduation gown that was presented. It is my hope that my message today clarifies any questions, rumors or theories that may have been created about this topic. The statement below is a synopsis of what I delivered:

"In an effort to give our students a voice in the gown they will wear for graduation, I am working with Jostens to provide 3 options of gowns for you (Seniors) to vote on, and thus be worn during the Class of 2019 Pickens High School Commencement Ceremony on June 1st, 2019 at our stadium. One option will be a solid green gown with a mostly white Diamond "P" patch on it. Another choice will be the option that was presented yesterday, as I have had numerous students express interest in these. The third option will be another design that will include white accents on a green gown, in an effort to give another option of including both of our school colors. This option, too, will include the Diamond "P" patch on it. Students will vote and immediate feedback will be given. If the results of this vote do not produce at least a 51% majority, we will remove the choice with the least amount of votes and vote on the remaining two options. The gown that receives the majority of the votes will be the gown worn by all PHS Class of 2019 students during the commencement ceremony and for cap and gown pictures. The options for these gowns will be represented by displaying the actual gown, not a picture. I am hopeful that you, our students, will view this as being an effort to keep this ceremony about what is important to you. In no way was the option that was presented originally intended to be my preference or something I created. It was, instead, an option that was made available to me by Jostens to provide a gown that incorporates both of our school colors".

Sincerely,

Chris Wallace, Ed. S.
Principal