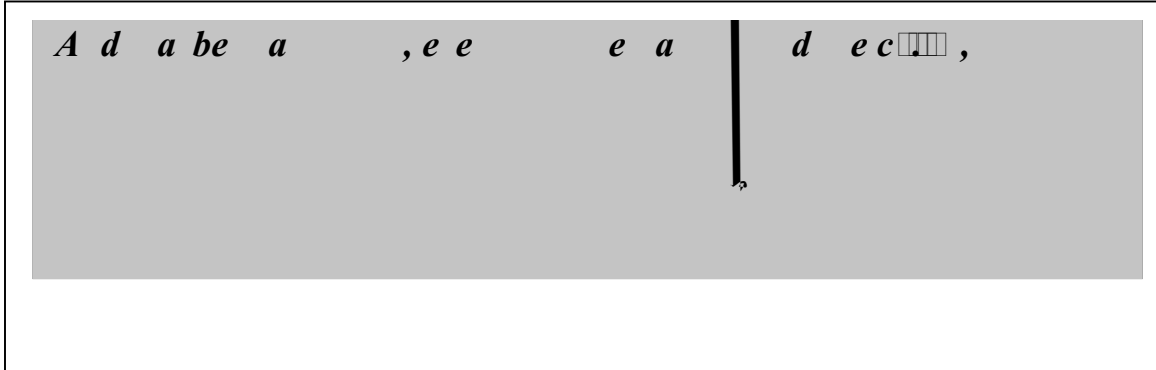


Will your graduation represent your school well?

Ensuring your graduation ceremony impresses visitors



Graduation needs to focus on the accomplishments of your graduates. But it is also when the largest number of happy people gather on your campus, so let's make sure they walk away impressed.

Make your campus sparkle

Even old and tired buildings can be clean. If you can't afford great ongoing janitorial services, splurge and make it happen now. And for goodness sake, make sure the bathrooms have plenty of toilet paper.

Honor students

Of course, you will be giving diplomas, but can you recognize students for other accomplishments large and small, serious and playful?

For A+ work: give awards that reinforce your mission and the culture you want to encourage on your campus. For example: if your school mission talks about educating the whole child think about giving an award to the student who models and encourages others to make healthy choices.

Help them succeed this one last time

Students speaking and performing at graduations are important and wonderful. While you can't control every blip and hiccup, you can help their confidence by offering to practice with them, giving them tips, rehearsing in the space and with the microphones, etc.



What impression would you rather have the audience take home: "Wasn't the class president's speech sweet even if we couldn't understand many of the mumbled words?" or "Wasn't the class president's speech impressive?"

Pssst... This applies to both elementary and high school graduations. Even simple participation can be executed poorly or well.

Delegating:

Cleaning can be delegated to nearly anyone. Thinking up appropriate acknowledgements can be done by a team member who "gets" your mission. Helping students prepare should be done by a teacher the student connects