



IMMEDIATE NEWS RELEASE

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RFA GRADUATION DETAILS

Rome, NY – Preparations are being made for the 154th Commencement ceremony this Saturday, June 24th of more than 345 seniors in Rome Free Academy's class of 2023, including a live streaming of the RFA Stadium ceremony to the Internet. The graduation procession will begin at 9:45 a.m. and the ceremony will start at 10 a.m. Saturday at RFA Stadium, where an estimated crowd of more than 2,000 family members and friends is expected.

The live Internet streaming will be available at the district website at: www.romecsd.org online. A **graduation** link will be at the site, and by clicking on the link, people will be able to view the ceremony live. It is to begin at 9:45 a.m.

Speakers at the ceremony will include Valedictorian, Katelyn Boyer, who received a weighted grade point average of 103, and Salutatorian, Enrique Rivera, who received a weighted grade point average of 102.54.

The local weather forecast for Saturday is partly cloudy. The Graduation ceremony will go on "rain or shine". A graduation rehearsal for students is scheduled for Friday morning at 9 a.m. RFA.

Principal Brian P. LeBaron confirmed additional details about graduation day procedures Saturday:

- Parking for RFA Stadium will be available on streets in the neighborhood, except for Sycamore Street, which will be closed to traffic. Parking for people with handicaps will be available in the parking lot just south of the stadium off Turin Street. Another parking lot, east of the former RFA school site bordering the stadium, will provide some limited spaces for faculty and staff members.

- Family and friends should enter the stadium by the Turin Street entrance only.

- Seniors are to report to the Stadium Support Facility next to the stadium by 9 a.m. Saturday, the processional will begin at 9:45 a.m. Students will be divided alphabetically into groups of about 20 each. Teachers will serve as group leaders. Students are expected to dress and behave appropriately. All students must wear shoes. In addition, beach attire and shorts will not be allowed under graduation gowns. Students will sit with their groups and will be called by name to receive diplomas.

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