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Graduation Program Flow

#### **1. Prelude or Musical Opening**

* Background music plays as guests arrive and take their seats, setting a celebratory and welcoming atmosphere.

**2. Processional**

* Graduates enter the ceremony area, often to the tune of "Pomp and Circumstance," marking the official start of the event.

**3. National Anthem**

* The assembly stands as the national anthem is played or sung, showing respect and patriotism.

**4. Welcome Remarks**

* A designated official, often the school principal or a senior administrator, welcomes attendees, introduces the graduation ceremony, and may offer initial congratulatory remarks to the graduates.

**5. Invocation or Moment of Reflection**

* An invocation or a brief moment of reflection may be included to acknowledge the significance of the occasion and to offer words of wisdom, hope, or prayer for the graduates' futures.

**6. Commencement Speech**

* A keynote speaker, often an esteemed guest, alumnus, or notable public figure, delivers the commencement speech, offering advice, inspiration, and insights to the graduating class.

**7. Valedictorian/Salutatorian Address**

* The valedictorian and possibly the salutatorian give speeches that reflect on their time at the institution, express gratitude, and look forward to the future.

**8. Presentation of Graduates**

* Graduates are called individually to receive their diplomas or certificates. This may involve walking across a stage, a handshake with a school official, and a photo opportunity.

**9. Conferring of Degrees**

* An academic leader officially confers degrees upon the graduates, marking their transition from students to graduates.

**10. Turning of the Tassel**

* A symbolic act where graduates move their tassel from one side of their cap to the other, signifying their new status as graduates.

**11. Award Presentations (Optional)**

* Special awards and recognitions for academic excellence, leadership, and other achievements may be presented to distinguished graduates.

**12. Closing Remarks**

* Closing words from the school principal or another official, offering final congratulations and well-wishes to the graduates.

**13. Recessional**

* Graduates and faculty exit the ceremony area, often to upbeat music, marking the end of the formal ceremony.

**14. Reception**

* A casual gathering that allows graduates, faculty, family, and friends to celebrate together with refreshments, photo opportunities, and informal interactions.