

July 8, 2020

Dear HHS Seniors and Parents of Seniors:

School administrators met with local health and safety officials last week to continue developing plans for an in-person **graduation ceremony** to be held on **Saturday, August 1st, at 5 PM**. As a result, I am happy to report the following details:

- In keeping with tradition, the **ceremony will be held on the multi-purpose (turf) field** at HHS.
- Each graduating senior may invite **two guests**, each of whom should be members of his/her immediate family. Guests will have to pre-register (details will be forthcoming in a separate communication) and they will be seated on the field, adjacent to (and on either side of) the student.
- Guests may begin entering at 4:00 PM. After checking in, they will be directed to their assigned seats.
- **All participants** (students and guests alike) **must wear a mask or face covering** at all times: before, during and after the ceremony. The only exceptions are when a person is unable to wear a face-covering because of a medical or other disabling condition.
- Anyone who feels sick or exhibits any COVID-related symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell) or has potentially been exposed to someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 should not attend the ceremony. Similarly, anyone who is especially vulnerable to COVID-19 (due to age, underlying conditions, etc.) should be discouraged from attending.
- All seniors should plan to **arrive at HHS between 4:00-4:15 PM** and park in the far lot. Seniors and their guests should carpool to the extent possible.
- All seniors should **wear the red graduation cap (with tassel) and gown**. All cords and pins will be distributed prior to the ceremony.
- HHS staff members will be on hand to direct students from the parking lot to where they will assemble (socially distanced at six-foot intervals) for the procession into the stadium.
- After entering the multipurpose stadium, students will be seated on the turf, spaced out across the entire field, in between their two guests, facing the home bleachers.
- The ceremony will begin promptly at 5 PM.
- In adherence to [state guidelines](#), the ceremony will be kept as brief and short as possible.
- Unlike the awards ceremony held last month, students will come forward to receive their diplomas, which will be placed on a table. No handshakes or other direct contact will occur.
- State guidelines prohibit the tossing of caps at the end of the ceremony. After the event, all students and guests should exit the stadium and leave school grounds as efficiently and quickly as possible.
- If inclement weather forces the cancellation of the event, we will announce the change via email and social media; if necessary, the rain date would be Sunday, August 2nd, at 5 PM.

Although we regret the two-guest limit, **Harbor Media will provide a livestream** on its Facebook page. Additionally, Harbor Media will develop a production for subsequent broadcast. We're grateful for their partnership in memorializing all of our major senior events.

Needless to say, we're counting on everybody (students and parents alike) to cooperate fully with safety protocols and all of the guidelines described above. Doing so will help to ensure a memorable event for all of our seniors, and it will improve the chances of keeping our community safe.

Thank you for your patience in waiting for the details of this event, as we worked with local officials to make it as fun and memorable as possible. We can't wait to see all of our seniors on August 1st!

Sincerely,
Rick Swanson
Principal