

## Summer Updates – Volume 2

July 2, 2020

Summer As we head into a long holiday weekend...

1. With help from local health and safety officials (pictured below), our planning for an in-person **graduation** ceremony (5 PM on August 1st) is well underway. **If you would like to participate in the ceremony and have not yet placed an order for academic regalia, please contact Jayne Skinner as soon as possible.**



2. **We need to replace a few freshman advisors** for next year. If you're interested, please let me know. The position brings a small stipend but, needless to say, most of the reward would be intrinsic and come from the knowledge that you're 1) helping our incoming ninth graders transition to the high school and 2) making a major contribution to the school. **I hope you'll consider joining the program!**

3. In case you missed the **first in a series of video messages** (released earlier this week) about plans for reopening school, click [here](#) to view a five-minute statement from our superintendent.

4. Here's an excerpt from my **favorite email** of the week: *"I'd like to especially thank [one of my daughter's teachers and compliment] some of her practices that stood out to me as really going the extra mile for her students. She hosted a video recorded lecture each week, which could be listened to by the students at a time convenient to the student/household. [My daughter] found this helpful because she could refer back to the lecture if she had questions about a particular piece of the material for the week. Not only could you see [the teacher] on video, but she showed materials and underlined and highlighted materials for emphasis – really nicely done! Additionally, [the teacher] hosted office hours each day for the students to ask questions, and was available via email when needed. She also went the extra mile to provide written comments on all homework, which was returned back to the student promptly so that the students could understand what they did wrong or right in a timely manner. Her approach and extra effort really stood out to me, so I thought sharing this with you might be beneficial in terms of feedback as well as complimentary to [the teacher]."* These statements could describe so many of you, and I remain deeply grateful for the exceptional work you did over the last three months of the school year. **I hope you're now enjoying some well-deserved rest!**

5. As a former history teacher, I've always thought **Independence Day** ought to be used as an opportunity to reflect on our nation's founding document. **"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..."** Beautiful words, even if we have fallen far short of living up to their full promise. In this troubled time, may we all recommit to building an America that remains true to the words our founders put down on paper.

**Happy Fourth!**

**Rick Swanson  
Principal  
Hingham High School**