



**Update #7 –May 5, 2020**

**Santa Fe R-X Community:**

We are now into May, and what would have been the final days of our academic year. The hustle and bustle of the many 'closure' activities that typically occur around this time are replaced by quiet and calm. These activities can certainly be trying with hundreds of busy teenagers eagerly anticipating vacation; but they certainly are a time-honored tradition in education. Absence certainly does make the heart grow fonder.

Just a few thing to share as reminders and a bit of news:

*Distance Learning*

A reminder that our efforts to educate our students will continue through the end of the school year. Lessons have now evolved to have a focus on activity-based lessons (especially grades 7-12). *Please remember that students are still earning credit during the last two weeks of school!* These lessons are designed to get your kids up and moving and apply some creativity and problem solving, as well as use the many gifts and talents they have! If you can, please ask them about what they're doing and encourage participation.

*Extra-Curricular Activities*

The Missouri State High Schools Activity Association (MSHSAA) came out with directives yesterday regarding activities:

1. Summer contact cannot occur until your school year ends, or the Friday of Memorial Day Weekend, May 23, 2020.
2. Your local, state, and national governments must clear or remove social distancing requirements to allow you to have contact with students. Currently, people are instructed to have 6 feet between them, and no more than 10 people in a gathering.
3. No contact should occur at any school without the approval of the superintendent of schools once the previous items are met.

Coach Capps is communicating with our coaching staff about ways to keep our kids busy, fit and prepared as possible during this non-contact period.



Graduation/Prom

After Update #6 was published, there were questions about whether prom was going to happen beyond any doubt. The answer to this is certainly “No”. While we would love to provide this opportunity for our kids, if there is still a social distancing order or any other realities that would make it unreasonable/unsafe to hold prom, it would be canceled. I understand that this leaves questions, but questions are part of our present reality, more than ever. Please know that a graduation ceremony is the priority of these events.

The May graduation date is now postponed to the June 20<sup>th</sup> date. As mentioned prior, I will make a decision on holding graduation on that date about two weeks prior to aid in your planning and communications. Below is the information that was shared earlier:

*SFHS Graduation & Prom:*

*In an effort to help families plan appropriately, the following arrangements have been made-*

*Graduation- If we are unable to hold graduation as scheduled in May, two alternate dates have been set in both June and July. The June date will be Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 and the July date will be Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, also at 1:00. We will try to make a decision approximately 2 weeks prior to each of these dates.*

*Prom- **\*It is possible that prom will have to be cancelled\****

- a. If graduation is held at 4:00 Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>= Prom will take place Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.*
- b. If graduation is held at 1:00 Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>= Prom will take place that same evening.*
- c. If graduation is held at 1:00 Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>= Prom will take place that same evening.*

*Regardless of date, prom itinerary will be the following:*

- 6:30-7:00 Walk-in*
- 7:00-9:00 Pictures/Dance*
- 10:00 Conclusion*

*The after-prom committee is still committed to providing a memorable experience for kids and will continue to adjust plans as necessary.*

Hoping all are well-

**Sincerely,**

**Derek Lark  
Superintendent  
Santa Fe R-X School District**