



## DEPEW UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEPEW HIGH SCHOOL  
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Dear Parents of the Graduating Class of 2020:

We are now at a point in time when our staff and students have reviewed various options to celebrate the milestone of graduation. The senior class officers and the Student Senate senior officers have had the chance to meet and share ideas. The ideas were presented in a survey to the Class of 2020 which provided all students an opportunity to offer options. The results of the survey communicated the priorities of the senior class. Therefore the option that meets our needs to celebrate, is the very unique option of using a drive-in theater (which has been allowed to open at this time). This venue would be used to view a pre-recorded graduation ceremony. Here is an overview of our alternative event:

- The DHS Virtual Graduation Ceremony will include all of the components of a traditional Depew graduation (speeches, choir, scholarships etc). You will see a video of each student crossing the stage to receive their diploma. In order to do this, students will be contacted to set up appointments during the week of **June 1st** to come to the HS dressed for graduation in cap and gown and walk across the stage, receiving their diplomas. This will be limited to immediate family members (4-5 members) only.
- The ceremony video will be viewed at the Transit Drive-In Theater in Lockport. Due to available dates, our date has been changed to **Monday, June 29, 2020**.
- Students will wear their graduation caps and gowns and ride with their family to the theater. Due to limited parking, there will be one car per family at this time. Invitations will be sent out mid-June.
- The ceremony will begin at dusk, approximately 9:15 PM since it is necessary that it is dark enough to maintain the picture quality. Families should plan to arrive at approximately 8 PM.
- Cars must be parked double spaced. Parking lot attendants will direct you to your spot.
- Families will be able to bring lawn chairs to sit in front of their cars, however social distancing must be practiced at all times. There can be no gathering. Restrooms and the snack bar will be available however, face masks must be worn when leaving the area of your vehicle. For more information, please refer to the Transit Drive-in website.

We recognize that this alternative will not replace our traditional graduation ceremony but we hope that you know that we are doing our best to honor the traditions of Depew and our students' accomplishments. We are also exploring on-line options for those who wish to view the ceremony at a different location. We look forward to this special event.

Sincerely yours,

Carol A. Townsend

Depew High School Principal