

June 15, 2020

TO: All Seniors and their Parents/Guardians

Due to the continuing changes in guidelines from the Governor's office, we are now able to have an in-person Commencement Ceremony on our Football Field (Stadium). With this news, and with the approval of the Mayor, Police and OEM, we applied to the State for this July celebration. Pending state approval, this commencement program will be held on July 9, 2020 at 6:30pm. The rain date for this event will be July 10, 2020 at 6:30pm.

In order to comply with the state guidelines, the following procedures will be implemented during this graduation ceremony.

- The graduate will be allowed two guests only.
- No one else will be allowed on the high school grounds at any time.
- Three tickets will be mailed home to each graduate during the last week of June 29th.
- Tickets are not transferrable
- All participants will need to arrive by car. Walk-ups are prohibited
- Only cars with three or fewer people (this includes the graduate) will be allowed into the parking area. You will be directed by a staff member to a parking space.
- **Face coverings are mandatory; no exceptions**
- Graduate and two guests will be directed to walk around the building passing the baseball and soccer fields to enter into the Stadium.
- Groups of three will enter the Stadium by the Bulldog statue.
- Groups of three will be seated upon arrival starting with seats in the end zone on the far side of the field nearest the Project Adventure equipment.
- There will be a Commencement Program at each seat.
- Groups of three seats will be organized in a staggered arrangement spanning the entire width of the football field from the back of one end zone to the back of the other.
- Groups are to remain in their seats with face coverings on for the entire length of the ceremony.
- The school will be closed and portable toilets will be available for emergencies only. Returning to the seating area may be prohibited.
- The ceremony will consist of speeches from the Principals, Superintendent and the students.
- The entire program will be livestreamed

- There will be no live band, orchestra or choral selections but music including our National Anthem, Pomp and Circumstance, and other music can be played via sound system.
- Names of all graduates will be read. Students will have the opportunity to stand and be recognized when their name is read. All graduates must wear their cap and gown.
- Since students will have had a chance to pick up their diplomas, there will be no walk-up and diplomas will not be available that evening.
- There will be no gathering at the scoreboard. Any caps thrown will remain on the ground and will be discarded by custodians after the ceremony.
- At the conclusion of the ceremony, groups will be dismissed with face coverings on starting with families closest to the Bulldog and continuing group by group until the field is empty.
- Families will return to their cars and leave the parking lot immediately. Remaining in the parking lot will not be permitted.

Please take time to read through the instructions that have been provided in this letter. It is extremely important that all of this information is understood. It is also recommended that graduates as well as guests drink water prior to the ceremony. The turf on the field can be at least ten degrees warmer than the actual temperature. In the event that the ceremony needs to be postponed, a decision will be made by 3:00pm that afternoon. This information will go out by way of our Alert System and will be posted on the High School website.

Thank you.

Bruce J. Peragallo
MHS Principal

Dr. Vincent Caputo
Superintendent