



EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. Donald L. MacFann

Superintendent of Schools

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Dear 2019-2020 Senior Families:

Currently, the East Allegheny School District plans to have a live graduation ceremony for our senior students on the originally scheduled graduation date of Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020. Should Governor Wolf decide to ease the current social distancing restrictions and permit large group gatherings prior to then, we will have a live traditional ceremony. This ceremony will be conducted on June 3rd at 6:30 pm with the location of the Jr/Sr. high school auditorium or Churchman Stadium to be decided upon on the morning of June 3, dependent on weather.

If we are permitted to hold a traditional graduation ceremony or a “drive-up” ceremony on June 3rd, 2020, the EASD will host a Senior Luncheon and graduation practice exercise on Thursday, May 28th, 2020 in the high school cafeteria. The luncheon will take place from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of honoring our senior students through related criteria gathered over their school careers. Following this luncheon, all senior students will be given written instructions involving either the traditional graduation process or the “drive through” graduation ceremony pending social distancing restriction.

Now, having stated our current and ideal plan, we must also face the reality that social distancing restrictions may not be lifted by June 3. To prepare for this, the East Allegheny School District is committed to having an alternative live ceremony for our senior students and their immediate families as long as we are able to meet all social distance restrictions requirements in doing so. This alternative ceremony would be a “drive-up” ceremony. We understand that although this is not the preferred ceremony, it is the clear second choice of our senior students based upon the graduation ceremony survey tabulations. Positively, this type of alternative ceremony will allow for a memorable experience, with live and in-person participation as well as allowing for the majority of students to participate who otherwise could not take part, on alternative dates, due to circumstances beyond their control.

If social distancing restrictions were to eliminate the “drive-up” ceremony on June 3, we will postpone the ceremony to June 24th and then to July 24th, with August 8th being the final alternative date. We will continue to assess and adapt to the ongoing situation and will determine the style of ceremony closer to the dates as is permitted. These dates are arranged in the manner consistent with the senior survey provided to all 12th grade students, parents, and guardians on Monday, April 27th, 2020.

There are no easy answers in any of our recent decision making, especially with the current risks of bringing people together to celebrate as one. All we can do is hope and do our best to send our senior students off with the recognition they deserve.

As always, I encourage you to practice social distancing, wear your mask, wash your hands, and remain safe.

Sincerely,

Donald L. MacFann
SuperintendentDLM/jlg