April 30, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Seniors:

As is tradition in May, we have a number of special events honoring our seniors, culminating with our graduation ceremony.  This time of the year is always bittersweet for us as we bid our seniors farewell, but, it is particularly so this year. It is difficult to put into words how proud we are of the Assumption High School Class of 2020. It is also impossible to express how grateful we are for their enthusiasm, their compassion, and their dedication to everything they do and their leadership in such unprecedented times.  We know that you are proud of them also.

Especially in these unusual times it is essential that we honor these young women and their many accomplishments from the last four years. We want to share with you our approach to celebrating our seniors over the course of the next couple of weeks and our plans to celebrate in the future. We have worked diligently and faithfully to plan for the Class of 2020. Of course, the most difficult part of developing our plan to recognize the seniors was simply that it was planning that we did not want to do. We would much prefer our traditional plans that would have us all be together.

Unfortunately, the current Covid-19 pandemic does not allow us to do so and it is essential that we abide by the governor’s directive for all of us to stay healthy at home. The health and safety of our students and their families as well as our faculty and staff must be our top priority. So, we have made “at-home” plans for senior events in May and we remain hopeful that we will be able to have in-person events later this summer.

We are committed to mark each May senior event on the day that it was originally scheduled to occur. In order to determine how we would celebrate on those days, we had to go back to the heart of what each of these events represents for our seniors as they say goodbye to Assumption. This reflection guided our decision-making about how to best plan these events virtually for the Class of 2020. Included below you will find an explanation of each event with important information. We invite you and your daughters to take advantage of these unique opportunities. We hope you will do so.

Thank you in advance for your support and understanding of our approach and plans going forward. Both you and your daughters have been amazing over these last several weeks, and we are so grateful. We know that even while we are apart, we can be together in spirit and always…as the class motto reminds us…at heart.

Sincerely,

Mary Lang                 Martha Tedesco

President                   Principal

**SENIOR CELEBRATORY EVENTS**

**SENIOR WALK OUT** – **Thursday, May 7**

Senior Walk Out is a traditional way for our faculty/staff to say good-bye to our seniors as they leave their last classes at Assumption. We will be hosting a virtual walk out via ZOOM after the seniors’ final class on **Thursday, May 7 beginning at 1:45 p.m**., with a very creative and personal goodbye from our faculty and staff. Instructions for how to access the Zoom meeting will be sent to seniors via email next week. The virtual walk out will be recorded and shared with parents after the event.

**SENIOR PROM *–* Friday, May 8**

Senior prom is a special way for the Class of 2020 to celebrate as a class. On **Friday, May 8,** the seniors will receive a special delivery to their homes including an invitation for seniors to dress up for prom as well as a few other surprises. Graduation gowns, stoles, and caps will also be included in this delivery. We have set a tentative date for a senior prom for **Thursday, July 23.** We will send more information on possible details as we continue to receive directives about public gatherings this summer.

**SENIOR HONORS CEREMONY – Wednesday, May 13**

The Senior Honors Ceremony is a special way to celebrate the accomplishments of the senior class and all aspects of our mission. Parents and seniors are invited to watch a special virtual honors ceremony that will be available on Assumption’s YouTube on **Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m.** Additional details will be shared prior to the event. The ceremony will be recorded and available after the event for viewing. The booklet of awards traditionally given out at this ceremony will be provided online for immediate viewing and mailed home in paper copy once it is able to be officially published. Assumption’s three most prestigious awards presented to the graduating seniors by the faculty and staff will be announced at this ceremony and publicly recognized at graduation. All awards and certificates will be delivered home at a later date. Honor society cords will be made available at graduation later this summer for seniors to wear as all cords are not able to be ordered currently due to the pandemic.

**BACCALAUREATE PRAYER SERVICE - Thursday, May 14**

Baccalaureate is a time for our seniors and their families to come together in prayer to celebrate their connection to each other and to our God. Parents and seniors are invited to watch our prayer service via Assumption’s Facebook and YouTube on **Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m**. The video will remain available after the premier on May 14. Additional details will be shared prior to the event.

**GRADUATION - Saturday, May 16**

Graduation is our culminating celebration of the Class of 2020. On **Saturday, May 16**, seniors will receive a special home delivery and will be asked to submit a photo wearing their caps and gowns at home to be shared on social media. We have set a tentative date of **Saturday, July 25** for graduation to be held at Assumption High School (which would also allow for each senior the opportunity to walk out of the school one last time). We will send more information on possible details as we continue to receive directives about public gatherings this summer. If limitations on public gatherings remain in place at this time, Assumption has designated a second tentative date for **Friday evening, December 18**.