

July 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Graduating Seniors,

We hope that this email finds you and your family safe and healthy during this continued pandemic. We wanted to follow up with you and your daughters about plans for celebrating the Class of 2020 in July. As you know from our previous communications in May, there have been two priorities in every decision we have made in regard to celebrating your daughters who make up this amazing class of 2020. The first, as always, is their health and safety to which we are committed to safeguarding by following the directives of the governor and the CDC about how to be healthy at home, healthy at work, and healthy at school. And, secondly, is to find meaningful ways to mark these special milestones within those parameters.

In May we shared tentative plans which we hoped would come to fruition, but we knew then that these would be dependent upon ever-changing directives in the evolution of the global pandemic. We were hopeful that by this time Covid-19 would be on the decline and that it would once again be safe to host large events as a school. We now have a clearer picture of the current mandates for the immediate future and would like to inform you of how we plan to celebrate the Class of 2020 within the current guidelines.

**SENIOR PROM:** While we were hopeful that we could gather the girls together for their senior prom on Thursday, July 23, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has directed schools to cancel all field trips, assemblies, and any large group activities to avoid mixing students in a common area. Because prom is a dance that mixes a large group of students in a common area together that does not allow for social distancing, we must adhere to this mandate at this time. This means, unfortunately, we will not be able to host this event. We know this is a disappointment and are saddened that we cannot provide this special experience for the Class of 2020. However, we know that the true purpose of prom is to bring the class together to celebrate so we have tentatively planned for a celebration to bring the girls back to campus on **Friday evening, December 18**. If restrictions have not been lifted at that time, then we will plan for a one-year reunion celebration for the girls next spring/summer. We are committed to our promise to bring them all back together again on campus to give them a celebration that they deserve when it is safe to do so. The senior class moderator will be following up with the class via email about a prom refund for the ticket portion that each senior paid individually.

**GRADUATION:** Additionally, we were hoping to plan a traditional graduation ceremony at Assumption on Saturday, July 25. Unfortunately, current restrictions do not allow this for a class of 250 and their families at our site. Because we know that our seniors need to mark this milestone and close their high school experience prior to the start of college or career in the fall, we want to give the Class of 2020 their moment to cross the stage and receive their diplomas, and we also want to give their families the opportunity to witness and capture the moment in person. In order to provide this experience, graduation will need to look different on **July 25**. We will provide an individualized graduation experience for each senior and her family in our gym. The event will be live-streamed including a graduation opening ceremony that extended family and friends can also watch from their homes. The entire event will also be recorded for full viewing and reference at a later time. Additionally, each senior will have her official graduation picture taken which will be available for downloading free of charge.

We are still working on final details, but we do know the following:

- Seniors will be grouped alphabetically and assigned a window of time between 10:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m. to come to campus on Saturday, July 25.
- Seniors will be able to bring family members with them. We *highly encourage* this be limited to immediate family but no more than 9 family members will be admitted with each senior (for a total party number of 10).

- All healthy at school safety precautions including masks, hand sanitizing, and physical distancing will be required.
- Diplomas will be mailed home as usual.
- Honor cords will be provided before or at the event depending on continued availability.

We will share more specific information about further logistics in the next few weeks. We are very hopeful that this event, while certainly different, will be a happy “hand over heart” one shared by family and friends either in-person or virtually and give each senior her moment to shine. We are so grateful to you and your daughters for your patience. We cannot wait to see you and celebrate with each of you later this month!

Sincerely,

Mary Lang  
President

Martha Tedesco  
Principal