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KEARNY HIGH SCHOOL

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May, 2020

Dear KHS Parents and Class of 2020:

I hope this correspondence finds you all safe and well. I miss all of you filling the halls of KHS and seeing that sea of Red and Black. You truly do not know what you have until it is gone. Anyone who has lost a friend or family member during this unprecedented time, my heart goes out to you. Please accept my sincerest condolences on behalf of my administrative team and the faculty and staff of KHS.

Although the end of the school year and your senior year has been far from traditional, it is extremely important to the faculty and staff at Kearny High School that we provide the members of the Class of 2020 with a memorable ending to their high school experience that will be unique, but nonetheless special. Many other school districts are choosing virtual graduations, we have chosen not to take this route, but rather provide you with an experience that is as close as we can get to our traditional graduation ceremony. We want nothing but the best for the Class of 2020.

Over the past several weeks, a committee dedicated to making sure that a number of plans are being developed that will allow the Class of 2020 to still celebrate their successes together. Please know we are still bound by the social distancing guidelines that are in place from the state of New Jersey.

Our state and local government have allowed small gatherings (no more than 10 socially distanced from each other), to congregate and celebrate certain milestones. In light of this directive, we have put together the following proposed plans to make the senior events as enjoyable as possible for all seniors. If necessary, we will continue to update them based on the information we receive from the Governor of New Jersey. We are very much looking forward to celebrating these successes with the Class of 2020!

CAPS & GOWNS

Attached to this email you will find a schedule to pick up caps, gowns, and honors tassels. We will begin to hand these out on May 27th. Please arrive on your scheduled date and time. If for any reason you miss your scheduled date, you will have to email tmunro@kearnyschools.com to reschedule for a make-up date.

GRADUATION CLASS OF 2020

****Please be advised that you must bring your Chromebook, charger and case with you to your scheduled graduation!**

Jacalyn Richardson, Principal

Justin Avitable, Assistant Principal

Paul Measso, Assistant Principal



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As per the attached schedule, we will conduct 9 days of graduation ceremonies that will begin on June 3rd. The plan is as follows:

1. Graduate and a maximum of 5 FAMILY members will report on the day and time scheduled. Graduate must arrive in their cap and gown.
2. Graduate will check in at the upper King Street gate to the KHS Stadium and stand/park in line (socially distanced). King St. will be closed to ALL traffic other than to those graduates scheduled for the particular day & time. Kearny Police and Security will be present to identify graduates participating on that day.
3. When instructed, graduate and family may either drive through or walk through the gate for their turn. (No other cars/spectators will be permitted).
4. As you enter the upper stadium, you will be given 2 sheets of paper. Both will have your name and ID # on it.
 - One sheet of paper you will put in your Chromebook case with your Chromebook and charger. Please know you are required to hand in all three items attached to your Chromebook (charged Chromebook, case and charger).
 - The other sheet of paper is to identify you in your graduation picture which will be taken by a school photographer.
5. You will drop off your Chromebook, case and charger on a table at the back of the school before you continue to the plaza for graduation.
6. Once you are in the stadium, there will be no more than 10 people present – School administration/staff (3), the photographer (1), the Graduate and family (1 + not more than 5 FAMILY members). The HS Principal and Superintendent of Schools will greet you and direct you to have your picture taken and receive your diploma cover.
7. Graduate will take a diploma cover from the table and step up to the backdrop for three pictures.
 - The first picture will be of the graduate
 - The second will be of the graduate with their name-tag
 - The third will be of the graduate with his/her family
8. After photos have been taken, the graduate and their family will either drive or walk out through the Garfield gate after receiving a parting gift from the PTA. You must leave the premises and go directly to your next destination. There can be no congregating as per the Governor's executive order.
9. It is extremely important that the rules governing this drive-through graduation are followed to the letter. Failure to comply with these rules may result in the cancellation of ALL future graduation ceremonies for the members of the Class of 2020.
10. The Mayor and Chief of Police have conferred with the Superintendent on this plan, and the Kearny Police Department will monitor the graduation and surrounding areas to ensure compliance.

It is critical to the social distancing executive order that you arrive on your scheduled date and time. If for any reason miss your scheduled date, you will have to email your senior VP:

Jacalyn Richardson, Principal

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Paul Measso, Assistant Principal



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javitable@kearnyschools.com to reschedule a make-up date. Please note: Depending upon weather, scheduling make-ups cannot be guaranteed.

<p><u>Senior Awards Night</u> KHS faculty and staff were looking forward to a traditional Senior Awards Night. Due to executive order 107, we have developed the following plan “B.”</p>	<p><u>Plan B:</u> A slideshow will be developed and will have a slide for each Scholarship or Award offered. Each slide will have the name, description and the recipient student’s picture and name. This slide show will be shared with all families on June 10th.</p>
<p><u>Academic Excellence</u> KHS faculty and staff were looking forward to a traditional Academic Excellence Ceremony. Due to executive order 107, we have developed the following plan “B.”</p>	<p><u>Plan B:</u> A live Google Meet Ceremony is planned for June 4th at 1:00 pm. Information will be coming soon to those who will be honored. Please look for an email from Mrs. Fasciano.</p>
<p><u>Prom</u> KHS faculty and staff were looking forward to a traditional Prom. Due to executive order 107, we have developed the following plan “B” and plan “C”</p>	<p><u>Plan B:</u> A virtual prom was planned for the actual date of the senior prom. Administration asked the senior class advisors and the advisor and office holders of the Student Government to meet and discuss this plan. After this meeting, plan “C” was developed.</p> <p><u>Plan C:</u> Our Student Government representatives conducted a google meet with their class advisor and the advisor of the Student Government. The representatives of the senior class expressed that they did not want a virtual prom nor did they feel their class would receive this plan well. They proposed a “Senior Social” gathering the Friday of Thanksgiving break 2020. This has been presented to the BOE, and they will support this plan.</p>

Other academic recognitions, such World Language Honor Society, will be presented in virtual format at a date to be determined. Athletics is also planning a virtual recognition program for senior athletes. The staff members and/or advisors will be reaching out to you shortly with information on these events. As plans finalize, we will keep you updated.

Please know writing this letter to all of you elicits so many emotions. As the parent of a graduating senior, I know first-hand what you are all going through. Our administrative team will do everything

Jacalyn Richardson, Principal

Justin Auitable, Assistant Principal

Paul Measso, Assistant Principal



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in our power to make the end of your senior year one that is memorable and meaningful for all of you.

Have a great day.

Jacalyn K. Richardson

Jacalyn Richardson, Principal

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Paul Measso, Assistant Principal