

June 15, 2020

Dear Central City High School Seniors and Parents:

On July 5th, at 8:00 pm, we will celebrate a significant milestone that marks the end of your teenager's formal education at Central City Public Schools. Commencement is a day to celebrate the beginning of a new and exciting adventure for both students and parents. Congratulations!

Enclosed are the important details about graduation. With assistance from parents and cooperation from your senior student, we will be able to provide a very memorable and formal ceremony.

The last quarter of the school year has been all but normal for our seniors. However, this class will have an opportunity that no other class has experienced in history. They will get the opportunity to have an outdoor and "nighttime" graduation at the stadium. The DHM has approved the school to hold its graduation ceremony. However, we must follow their requirements which allows us to have a capacity of less than 500 people at the stadium. Because of the limitations, we must limit each family to seven individuals who can attend graduation. Each family will receive seven tickets which will allow entrance into the stadium the day of graduation.

Since your son or daughter received their high school diploma, please have them return it to the school when they attend graduation practice on June 29th at 7:00 pm. We want to ensure the diploma is part of the graduation ceremony on July 5th.

Thank you for trusting and supporting our teachers, staff, administration and school board in an effort to provide a quality education for your teenager. It has been a joy to see the class of 2020 develop and mature into young adults. Seniors, congratulations on a major accomplishment and may your endeavors be filled with a bright and successful future.

Please pay special attention to the enclosed expectations, seating, schedule, and picture information.

Sincerely

Shawn McDiffett
High School Principal

Precautions & Recommendations of the CDC During the Current COVID

Situation

- Gates will be open at 3pm before the ceremony for families to reserve seating locations.
 - Gates will close at 6pm and people will be asked to leave until re-opening at 7pm for the ceremony.
 - Families may locate and reserve various areas to be used to view the ceremony during the 3pm to 6pm window.
 - Family groups are to be six feet from other family groups.
 - Families may locate themselves in the grandstands or may bring lawn chairs, etc and locate themselves on the track and outside the roped areas that are assigned for graduates and staff only.
 - Each family must socially distance themselves from other families when arranging seating for their family.
 - Seating-- seven person limit per senior family household. Attendees must have a ticket upon entering the stadium. Tickets will be given to the seniors during practice.

- Individuals that are sick, ill, or at greater risks are encouraged to stay home. The event will be telecast on Striv. Those encouraged to stay home may include:
 - People with underlying medical conditions
 - The elderly
 - Family members who live with elderly people or those who are at risk
 - People who have access to those at risk in nursing institutions
 - People who have upper respiratory or flu-like symptoms
 - People with COVID-19 or live with someone with COVID-19
 - People who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
- Hand Sanitizer will be available at all entries and the use of such hand sanitizer is encouraged.
- Masks are currently recommended by the CDC and encouraged for those attending the ceremony.
- Families with students are discouraged from having large graduation parties and if graduation parties are held, families are encouraged to abide by CDC guidelines for those group settings.

Graduation Robe and Dress Instructions and Etiquette Expectations

- Try on your cap and gown prior to graduation. Then, hang up the gown so the wrinkles will “hang out.”
- Keep track of your tassel and stoles; tassels and stoles in the past have been lost on the way to graduation.
 - **NO EXTRA ITEMS HAVE BEEN ORDERED!**
- The length of the gown should be approximately mid-calf. If either your cap or gown does not fit properly or something is missing or torn, notify the sponsor as soon as possible.
 - **TRYING TO REPLACE EITHER CAP OR GOWN ON THE DAY BEFORE GRADUATION IS NOT POSSIBLE!**
- The appropriate attire for graduating women is a dress or skirt and blouse, not longer than the graduation gown. Dress shoes are recommended, I would strongly suggest no high-heels because it will be very difficult to walk on the turf with high-heels. The appropriate attire for graduating men is slacks, dress shoes, socks, and shirt with collar.
 - **JEANS, T-SHIRTS, TENNIS SHOES, SLIPPERS OR FLIP FLOPS are not acceptable for any graduating senior.**
- Graduating from high school is one of a very few special occasions in life and it only happens once. Make choices that will bring memories to enjoy, not regret.
- Please refrain from bringing beach balls, air horns etc. that disrupt the ceremony. Participants will have these items confiscated and may be asked to leave the premises by school officials. Uncooperative guests will be dealt with by the local police department.
- The exterior part of the **cap shall not be decorated or written on.**
- Graduation is a very special day and a formal occasion; please encourage friends, family and guests to dress appropriately.
- **Graduation Pictures** - Jessi Jensen from the Republican Nonpareil will take individual and group pictures for those students or parents that want professional pictures. The picture packet is enclosed; those who would like a professional quality individual and/or group picture will need to bring the packet and money to Jessi the day of graduation.

Important Dates and Times:

June 29th **Graduation Practice** - 7:00 pm Sharp! In the PAC (will not start practice until all seniors are present) with Jr. Escorts

Seniors, please bring your diplomas in the covers to practice---we will hand those to you during the ceremony!

July 5th **Graduation Day** - all students arrive at PAC by 7:00 pm and go to the PAC auditorium for pictures. We ask parents to give the sponsors, administration, photographers and other staff members an opportunity to assist the senior students in the PAC theatre; parents are welcome to take pictures and assist their students outside the theatre (in the PAC commons or outside).

7:40 pm ALL seniors and attendants in PAC

7:50 pm-line up in the PAC and walk to stadium as a class

8:00 pm---Graduation!

7:00 pm **Gates open---must have a CCPS ticket to attend (7 per family)- seating is on a first come basis.** Seating will be on the field outside the roped off area or in the bleachers (those who wish to sit on the field are asked to bring your own lawn chairs).

The ceremony will be streamed through Striv for friends and family.