



Minnetonka High School

Weekly Principal Update



Dear Seniors and Parents,

I hope this letter finds you well and ready for school to start on Monday. Our teachers and staff are eager to begin e-learning and are truly looking forward to connecting.

I'm writing with a brief update about our planning for a number of the milestone events yet this year in light of our current reality. Many of you have reached out with questions and concerns, and I appreciate that.

My focus is simple: To ensure we find ways to honor and celebrate you. With that in mind, here are our latest plans for the remainder of the school year.

As you know, Prom is scheduled for May 16, 2020 at the Hutton House in Plymouth. At present, we are reviewing this plan. Our focus on safety will remain the highest priority. We will rely on primary guidance from the Governor and our local health officials when it comes to decisions about large gatherings. If we are unable to host Prom on May 16, we are finalizing several back-up dates for the event to happen over the summer.

The most important date as we look ahead for our seniors and families is, of course, Graduation. As I've shared in my previous messages, we continue to plan for this to take place on June 9 at 7:00 p.m. in US Bank Stadium. This may, of course, be postponed or changed in some way based on the latest guidance from the Governor and our local health experts.

If Graduation cannot take place on June 9, we've worked with US Bank Stadium to confirm two back-up dates on which we could host the ceremony. The first date would be **July 28, 2020**, and if that is not possible due to restrictions from local officials, we have a second date of **August 11, 2020** reserved. Any decision to move to our first back-up date would be determined in May. While I know we'd like to have the final date now, this plan allows us to have options and a clear path ahead to honor

you in the traditional Minnetonka way.

Over the next few weeks, I will be sharing the timeline for the student speaker, musical groups and emcee auditions for the Graduation ceremony. Auditions will be submitted in video format in early May. So, start thinking!

Lastly, I'd like to highlight two other activities: **Senior Serve and Senior Day**. As you know, Senior Serve takes place the days leading up to Graduation with our Senior class volunteering in the community. We are tentatively planning for this to go on, as planned. That said, if we cannot do this event in person, we will provide some ways for seniors to give back virtually or in a safe way.

As Senior Day was planned for April 22, this has been postponed. We will plan for this event to happen a week before Graduation. The following are possible dates: June 4, July 23 or August 6 in the afternoon. Senior Day will include a senior BBQ and celebration at MHS field/west parking lot.

Seniors, you have been a special class for me. You each possess traits not easily taught--you lead with tremendous kindness, compassion, humor and zest for life. I have great admiration and respect for you. I miss our daily interactions, and I look forward to finding new ways to connect ... so please send me ideas, if you have them!

Tonka, thank you for your patience, understanding and flexibility as we navigate these uncertain times. Continue to help me, Class of 2020, lead our MHS community. Our work isn't done. #KIR

With gratitude,

Jeff Erickson