



Ellenville High School
 28 Maple Ave
 Ellenville, N.Y. 12428
 Tel: (845) 647-0123
 Fax: (845) 647-5972

Carl Pabon
 Principal
 cpabon@ecs.k12.ny.us

Kelly White
 Assistant Principal
 kwhite@ecs.k12.ny.us

May 20, 2020

Dear Class of 2020 Students & Parents/Guardians,

We share in your disappointment of the tremendous amount of loss that the Class of 2020 has faced due to the impact of COVID-19. While we all envisioned a traditional graduation ceremony out on the football field, surrounded by classmates, teachers, family, and friends, these plans have significantly been disrupted due to the global pandemic. That being said, we are committed to honoring and celebrating the accomplishments of the Class of 2020, while working within the parameters set by New York State.

Over the last few weeks, the high school graduation committee, along with your class officers and class advisors, have developed plans to host a modified graduation ceremony incorporating elements of the traditional plans. Class officers shared that their classmates expressed a desire to graduate on the football field, having one final experience as a Blue Devil. Our plan will allow for this request to be honored, while following the required safety protocols.

During the week of June 8th - June 12th (*weather permitting*), students will have the opportunity to walk the stage on the football field to commemorate their graduation. Graduates will be invited in groups of ten according to the schedule below. Graduates may be accompanied by no more than 6 members of their immediate family, who will be able to view the abbreviated ceremony from a designated area. ***All attendees are required to wear a face covering while on school property. Face coverings are required for all attendees over the age of 2.***

Schedule:

| Time Slot | Monday, June 8th | Tuesday, June 9th | Wednesday, June 10th |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1:00 p.m. | <i>Reserved for Recording of Speeches</i> | Last Names: <i>A - Ca</i> | Last Names: <i>N - Pol</i> |
| 2:00 p.m. | Honor Graduates: <i>B - He</i> | Last Names: <i>Ch - Fi</i> | Last Names: <i>Por - Se</i> |
| 2:30 p.m. | Honor Graduates: <i>Hi - S</i> | Last Names: <i>Fl - Hua</i> | Last Names: <i>Sh - To</i> |
| 3:00 p.m. | Honor Graduates: <i>T - Z</i> | Last Names: <i>Hug - Le</i> | Last Names: <i>V - Z</i> |
| 3:30 p.m. | | Last Names: <i>Li - Mos</i> | |

***Thursday, June 11th & Friday, June 12th are reserved as rain dates. In the event that a rain date will be needed, please check your email and/or school website for further directions.**

The abbreviated ceremony will be a 3 phase event:

Phase 1: Students will be announced to walk across the stage to be congratulated by high school administration and pick up their diploma folder. There will be no physical contact allowed.

Phase 2: After exiting the stage, students will have a photo opportunity with the Class of 2020 rock as the backdrop.

Phase 3: Students will continue to a video station where they will give a shout out to their classmates, move their tassel, and toss their graduation cap.

The entire event will be filmed and our in-house TV studio staff will be editing the footage to create a keepsake video for students, featuring all of the graduates and other graduation related footage. Plans are underway for a potential viewing event at an area drive-in movie theatre, and if approved, will be communicated at a later date.

FAQs:

| | |
|---|---|
| When will graduates receive their cap and gown? | Caps and gowns are expected to arrive from our distributor during the first week of June. Once the expected delivery date is confirmed, a plan for pick up will be confirmed and communicated. |
| Do graduates need to wear a face covering? | Yes. Everyone attending the ceremony, including graduates, must have a face covering on. Graduates may remove their face covering when walking across the stage, taking their photo, and while at the video station. |
| Can graduates decorate their cap? | Yes. Please make sure that any decor is school appropriate and does not violate the Code of Conduct. Students who show up with a cap that is inappropriately decorated will not be able to wear it for the ceremony and will be given a blank cap. For advanced planning purposes, the top of the cap measures 9.25" x 9.25". |
| Will there be the traditional graduation speeches? | Yes. In addition to speeches from the administration and the Board of Education president, the valedictorian, the salutatorian, and the class vice president will be filming their speeches separately. These speeches will be included in the edited keepsake video. |
| Where do graduates go when they arrive for their time slot? | Graduates and their immediate families will access the field from the back of the elementary school. Security attendants will be present to direct cars and escort graduates and their families to the football field. (<i>See attached map</i>) |
| When will graduates receive their diploma? | Diplomas will be mailed to graduates at the conclusion of the fourth marking period which ends on June 25th. . |

We look forward to celebrating the Class of 2020 and appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we continue to adapt to this new reality. If you have additional questions, please contact us at 845-647-0123.

Sincerely,

Mr. Carl Pabon & Mrs. Kelly White

Traffic Flow Map:

