



May 13, 2020

Greetings, West York Area High School Families,

After listening to your feedback regarding the original virtual graduation plan proposed, and after much discussion and consideration, we have decided to make some changes. Jostens, the company we use to order caps, gowns, and other graduation materials, has assured us we will receive the final shipments by this Friday. Please know the company is severely understaffed and is struggling to fill all of their orders for the many schools they serve, therefore, we were not sure we would have all of the caps and gowns in our possession before Monday. We would like to offer a pick up window for caps and gowns on Monday, May 18th, from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm.

Cap and gown distribution:

- Pull up to the front of the High School between 9 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
- Please stay in your vehicle at all times.
- For a smoother transition, please have your full name written on a piece of paper or an index card.
- A District employee will take your name, retrieve your package, and return to distribute the items to you.

If we are unable to receive the orders as promised, we will contact those families Friday evening. We are aware of how important it is to have those items early so families can press the gowns and have time together prior to the ceremony.

The other change we would like to communicate is the location of the ceremony. After listening to your suggestions, it was evident the gymnasium was the more desirable and sentimental location. We will work hard to make sure the stage is set up and ready for each of your "walks" next week. I will personally be on stage for every single one of you and look forward to calling your name and watching you walk across the stage. District leadership will be present to hand diplomas to our graduates. Remember, you can personalize your experience; for example, you might want to hold up a sign that shares your plans post-graduation or bring along a piece of sporting equipment or musical instrument. You can also decorate your caps; please make sure it is appropriate.

We are permitting our graduates and families to remove their masks while on stage. As a reminder, a mask will be provided for each graduate; family members should bring their own.

Please use the image linked [HERE](#) to preview how we are asking you to enter and exit the gymnasium. Everyone will enter using door 12 and should immediately leave the building using door 10. After exiting, please **do not congregate**. All of our graduates are still able to sign the rock after their “walk” in the gymnasium. Please drive carefully to the band wing parking lot, and again, please avoid congregating. We have secured additional security for this event and are trusting everyone to comply with our directions for everyone’s safety.

We are looking forward to making this a memorable event for you. Please contact the High School main office if you have any questions regarding this process. We will see you all next week! Until then, please continue to stay safe and healthy.

Ms. Carrie Jones

Principal

West York Area High School