



Penn-Trafford High School

3381 Route 130 Harrison City, PA 15636
724-744-4471; <https://pths.penntrafford.org>

July 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Seniors of the Graduating Class of 2020:

Congratulations! In just a few short weeks, you will be reaching the pinnacle of your high school experience. Although this is not the path we expected to take, we understand how important this event will be for students and their families. This day will be filled with mixed emotions as you end one chapter of your life and begin a new one. With everyone's cooperation, this ceremony will be a joyous occasion.

Due to health concerns and for the safety of our students and families, we will be conducting two ceremonies in order to maintain social distancing.

The commencement ceremonies will be modified from our traditional ceremony but will still take place at the stadium on **July 31, 2020**. Students will be assigned to the following ceremony based on last name:

5:00 p.m. Last name beginning with A - L*

8:00 p.m. Last name beginning with M - Z

*Parents and guests are urged to exit the stadium directly after the first ceremony to allow enough time to prepare for the 8:00 pm ceremony.

Rain Date: Saturday, August 1 - Times remain the same.

Rehearsal: A pre-recorded video giving students detailed directions on what to expect that evening will be sent to students and families the week before the ceremonies. It will also be posted to the school website.

Guest Tickets/Seating: Each family will be given **4 tickets** for admission to the stadium. Any graduate with more than four members in their immediate family should contact the main office. Graduates do not need a ticket. Graduates and their families will walk into the stadium and enter together. Parents/Families will go to their assigned seats in the bleachers. Graduates will walk to their assigned seat on the field (There will not be a procession into the stadium). Randomly assigned seats will be provided at a later date.

Gates: Stadium gates will open 45 minutes prior to the scheduled ceremony.

Diplomas: Diplomas will be handed to students during the ceremony. Staff members will use gloves during the distribution.

Safety Measures:

- All graduates and guests must wear a protective mask (graduates may remove their mask during roll call and distribution of diplomas).
- There will be hand sanitizing stations available at the stadium entrance, bleacher entrance and on the field.
- Seating for students will be at least 6 feet apart, and students will be instructed to remain spacing throughout the ceremony.
- Seating for families will be assigned and labeled with the family's name on the seats. We ask families to sit in those assigned areas to maintain social distancing.
- At the conclusion of the ceremony, guests will NOT be permitted on the field and are expected to leave the stadium in a timely fashion so that we can prepare for the next ceremony.
- Students will exit the stadium through a separate gate and will join their families outside of the stadium.
- It is strongly recommended that anyone who travels to 1 of the 15 different hotspots should self quarantine upon return for a minimum of 14 days.
- If any student or guest is experiencing covid symptoms (fever, shortness of breath, dry cough, etc.) it is recommended that you do not attend the ceremony.

Parking: Each family will get **ONE** parking pass that will be required to get access to the campus. Each senior will ride with their family. Anyone without a parking pass will not be allowed to enter the campus. The main entrance is the only entrance to campus. In order to maintain social distancing and help with traffic congestion during the transition between ceremonies, two separate parking lots will be utilized.

5:00 pm Ceremony - Guests will park in the **Warrior Center lot** and will enter through the lower scoreboard gate.

8:00 pm Ceremony - Guests will park in the **upper lots** and will enter through the upper gate.

*Handicap spaces will be available in both lots. Please have your placard displayed. Even with a handicap placard you **MUST** have a parking pass to enter. A golf cart will be available to transport any guests parking in those handicapped spots to the seating area.

Ticket Distribution: All parking and seating tickets will be available between 6:00 am - 4:00 pm from Monday, July 27 - Thursday, July 30.

Live Video: Graduation will be streamed live. Family and friends can view the ceremony by going to our Twitter, Facebook and YouTube site.

Photo: Photography by parents will not be permitted in the immediate area of the diploma table. Pictures may be taken from the bleachers as the fence area will be closed to all guests.

LifeTouch studio has been approved to take photos of the diploma presentation. Information for purchasing photos of the diploma presentation will be sent to you by the LifeTouch studio.

In order to have a smooth commencement exercise, especially during this health pandemic, we must insist that all members of the senior class as well as family members and guests conform to the rules presented in this letter and any other directives that are given as we approach graduation day. Seniors and families not conforming to the above rules will not be permitted to participate in the commencement exercises.

I would like to wish the Class of 2020 the best of luck! I hope you had a great experience at Penn-Trafford High School.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tony Aquilio

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Principal, Penn-Trafford High School

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