

# Tuckahoe High School

## 2020

### Graduation Guide



# A Message from your Class Advisers and Administrators

Dear Parents and Graduates,

In the Tuckahoe spirit of not dwelling on what could have been, we have created a graduation ceremony that we hope will be memorable and uniquely personal. We have captured much of the tradition and dignity that makes a Tuckahoe High School graduation so special: the procession from the Arch of Flowers, the Rose Ceremony, the Tassel Ceremony and of course receiving the diploma.

The social limitations we all face have afforded us an opportunity to create some very special personal aspects within this ceremony. If he/she wishes, each graduate will have their pre-written sentiments of gratitude read, as well as college plans announced, family photos of the Rose Ceremony, and appropriate decorations for the graduation caps.

Rituals are an important aspect of our lives and the rituals of a graduation ceremony symbolically represent the important transition the graduates are about to undertake. They provide us with a sense of joy and connection to those we love and those who have supported us. Pomp and Circumstance, caps and gowns, cords and tassels all represent decades and centuries of tradition connecting you to all the graduates who preceded you. Due to the pandemic your ceremony will no doubt be the most unique; we hope you will also find it a special way to mark such a great accomplishment. Congratulations to each graduate as we know this is only the beginning of great achievements in your lives.

Sincerely,

Bart Linehan  
Principal

Amy Goodman  
Superintendent

Scott DeBellis  
Assistant Principal

Joel Abrams  
Senior Adviser

Andrew Colasuonno  
Senior Adviser

Danielle Iverson  
Senior Adviser

## **Arrival**

Each graduate and his/her family should arrive at their appointed time to assure all ceremonies progress in a timely manner. Seniors are asked to arrive wearing semi-formal attire under their caps and gowns. Graduates may appropriately decorate their caps. All graduates and guests should have face coverings. Upon arrival the graduates' car(s) will be directed to specific parking spots. Graduates will then be directed by the monitors to safely meet with an advisor and receive gifts from the community congratulating them on their graduation. Thank you to the junior class for this program. The gifts should be placed in an automobile.

Simultaneously, we'd ask a guest of the graduate return the graduate's Chromebook and books if outstanding at the noted table in the parking area. Families are welcome to take pictures as they await to be escorted to the courtyard arch. Graduates will be given two Roses as he/she is directed to line up. Upon notice, the graduate will be escorted to the first court yard in preparation for their procession. When directed, guests should then proceed to Siwanoy Boulevard to watch accordingly. Parents/guardians can choose to process behind their graduates or join the guests on Siwanoy Boulevard enjoying the moment.

## **The Beginning**

Upon direction and the cue of music, the graduate should slowly walk to the main court entrance in the front of the building. Graduates should stop half way at the center of the entrance, and face the building. There will be a mark on the ground to guide the graduate on where to stand. When the graduate's name is read, he/she ascends to the top of steps where there will be a second mark. At this point, the graduate turns and faces their family/guests.

## **The Ceremony**

The speaker at the podium which will be located on the field side of the court announces that the candidate for graduation would like to express his/her appreciation for helping them reach this moment in their lives. The list of names of appreciation from each student will be read. The student's college plans can also be announced if he/she wishes. The student continues to face the family/guests on Siwanoy Boulevard.

Next, the speaker will read a brief statement introducing the Rose Ceremony and the personal tribute to the parent(s)/guardian(s) will begin. The graduate will be directed to descend the front steps and distribute the roses to their parents/guardian. Upon completion, the graduate will return to the top of the steps and face the table positioned on the court. The table will have a pedestal where the graduate's diploma will have

been previously placed. Dr. Linehan will be on the other side of the table and offer a message of congratulations; then the graduate will be directed to receive his/her diploma taking it from the pedestal. Upon receipt, the graduate will face his/her family and our Superintendent, Ms. Goodman, will pronounce each graduate of Tuckahoe High School. After applause, the graduate descends down the stairs. We then ask the family to promptly pose for a celebratory photograph.

## **The Finale**

After the family photograph, the graduate and family/guests proceed to the third court where there will be a video from their teachers congratulating the graduate. Upon completion, the graduate will receive their graduate banner which was a gift from the PTA and G.O., to bring home as a keepsake. The graduate and family/guests will be directed to exit via the field and circle around the building back to the parking lot.

## **The Logistics**

**Safety:** All attendees will be required to have face covering to be worn accordingly during the ceremony. Coverings can be removed for family pictures. Graduates are recommended to wear but will be socially distanced enough to be removed during the ceremony.

To each family Individuals attending the event, including graduates, their immediate household, or school personnel, that any individual who (1) displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19, (2) has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, or (3) within the last 14 days was a close or proximate contact of an individual who had symptoms of COVID-19 or tested positive for COVID-19, is not permitted to attend the ceremony.

**Parking:** Maximum of two cars per graduate/family. Cars will have assigned spaces. Siwanoy Blvd will be closed off to non-residents fifteen minutes before the first ceremony of the day. Graduates and guests should enter the parking lot from the rear of the school approaching from Middle Road. Eastchester PD will be on hand to coordinate each day's celebrations. All aspects of these ceremonies have been coordinated with Eastchester PD.

**Transportation:** Please contact one of the senior class advisers if you need assistance in arranging transportation.

**Rain dates:** They are scheduled for June 18 and June 19 at the same scheduled times.

If June 15 is rained out; those graduates will have ceremonies on the 18th. Postponement information will be delivered via Blackboard Connect.

Face Coverings: All guests are expected to wear a face covering. Families are to use their discretion regarding pictures. Social Distancing will be practiced during the ceremony

Diplomas: We understand the diplomas have the original date. The tight timing, the six to eight week lead time, and cost were contributing factors.

Photography: A photographer and video photographer will be on site filming, practicing social distancing. In addition, there will be a live feed that will run the duration of the three day ceremonies each day.

Waiver: Please see the TUFSD Waiver pertaining to Graduations:

**VOLUNTARY GRADUATION/MOVING UP CEREMONY  
DISCLAIMER/ASSUMPTION OF RISK/HOLD HARMLESS NOTICE**

PLEASE BE ADVISED that participation in Tuckahoe's Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony is optional and completely voluntary. There is no requirement that any student, parent or other individual participate in the Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony, which is being offered by the District for the benefit of the District's students during these difficult times, to provide a sense of normalcy to students and recognize their achievement of a milestone.

PLEASE BE ADVISED that by participating in Tuckahoe's Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony, and as a condition of such participation, you, your child, your family members and/or any other individuals participating in the Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony are assuming the risk of such participation and must hold the District harmless for any and all liability, loss, damages, claims, and/or actions as a result of such participation, including, but not limited to, any such liability, loss, damages, claims, and/or actions for property damage, bodily injury and/or death. PLEASE BE FURTHER ADVISED that, to the extent that the Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony involves the use of your personal vehicle, your personal vehicle insurance will be responsible for any claims in connection to your vehicle, including, but not limited to, any claims for property damage, bodily injury and/or death.

PLEASE BE ADVISED that by participating in Tuckahoe's Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up

Ceremony, and as a condition of such participation, you, your child, your family members and/or any other individuals participating in the Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony accept responsibility for the payment of any emergency transportation or treatment.

PLEASE BE FURTHER ADVISED that by participating in Tuckahoe's Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony, and as a condition of such participation, you, your child, your family members and/or any other individuals participating in the Voluntary Graduation/Moving Up Ceremony are certifying that there are no medical or physical conditions that would make it dangerous for your or their participation in this event. In addition, participants must not be positive for COVID-19, under quarantine/isolation related to COVID-19, and must not be experiencing any symptoms related to COVID-19.

Individuals must maintain their vigilance in protecting themselves and their families and others — wear face coverings when going out, maintain social distancing, and wash your hands.

*Preparing Every Student for Excellence.*

**TUCKAHOE STRONG**



**CLASS OF 2020!**