



NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

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DR. HUGH T. GALLIGAN, PRINCIPAL
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Dear NHS Seniors and Senior Families,

I want to thank you for your continued support, flexibility and patience as we worked towards a plan for end of year senior celebratory events. I would especially like to thank our senior class officers, school and district administration teams, Norwood Health Department, and our many parent, guardian, and community volunteers who have helped support the class of 2021 this school year.

I am writing to provide a follow up to my April message regarding senior events. This message includes additional details related to class day and graduation. Earlier today, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) updated its guidance to allow more flexibility for schools especially at outdoor events. With that being said, NHS will move forward with the following – the dates are the same as were listed in my April update:

June 4: Class Day: Class day will be celebrated in person at 12 noon on Friday June 4 on the field behind NHS. All graduates should plan on attending. In the event of inclement weather on June 4, class day will be moved inside and will become a student-only event with no spectators allowed. This is due to the safety protocols that remain in place for indoor events. Class day will be live streamed by NCM regardless of its location and spectator rules.

June 6: Graduation (Rain date June 5): I would like to thank all of those involved at the town, school, and district level for taking part in an inclusive decision-making process to maximize the in-person possibilities for graduation day. We had been busy planning for weeks in line with the previous graduation guidance, and then paused once the news about lifting restrictions on May 29 was released. The updated guidance allows for a pretty traditional graduation ceremony.

Graduation will be at NHS on Sunday, June 6 at 1 PM. Please also hold June 5 open, for if we look ahead and that looks like the more opportune weather day, we will host it then instead at a time to be determined. Below, I have included the updated safety guidelines for graduation:

- When outdoors, students are not required to wear masks, and students should distance as feasible (we will seat students so that they are distanced).
- Effective May 29, for outdoor graduations only, attendees and staff are not required to wear masks and are encouraged to distance from individuals not in their household as feasible. Attendees are encouraged to wear face coverings if they are not vaccinated.
- Staff are permitted to hand diplomas to graduates.
- No capacity restrictions at outdoor graduations.

As we approach these events, I will be in touch with more information. Thank you all for your hard work, perseverance, and support. I look forward to celebrating the class of 2021 together!

Much Love, Dr. G

Hugh T. Galligan, Ed.D.
Principal
Norwood High School