



PARENTS AND STUDENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2021

April 1, 2021

You are nearly at the finish line. The journey through school started for most of you with Kindergarten and in a few short weeks, will culminate with high school graduation. We are excited to celebrate all the achievements of the Class of 2021.

Senior Late Arrival. Seniors will have late arrival on April 6, April 8, and May 5, 2021. These are days when 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will be taking the EOC (STAAR) tests. Seniors who still need to take STAAR to graduate will not have late arrival. Seniors scheduled to take an AP exam on May 5th should arrive at the appropriate time for their exam.

If seniors choose to make the day a virtual day they must log on to all four classes for the day through Canvas. If they are coming in person they do not need to log into their morning classes.

Seniors should arrive to Oak Ridge by 11:30 on April 6th and April 8th and by 10:30 on May 5th. Any questions should be directed to Mr. Manuel in the AP Office.

Senior Prom. Senior prom is April 23, 2021 at the The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel & Convention Center from 8pm-11:45pm. While we are excited to celebrate prom this year, an event that the Class of 2020 did not have the opportunity to attend, several safety protocols will be in place to make the event COVID compliant:

1. All attendees must purchase their ticket and guest ticket (if applicable) in advance. There will be no door sales.
2. Attendees who have COVID symptoms are barred from attending the event. We will process partial refunds for students that are quarantined by the school on prom day.
3. Masks must be worn at all times as social distancing will be difficult to maintain uniformly. Students who refuse to wear a mask will not be allowed to remain at the event and a refund will not be issued.
4. Prom tickets for Seniors can only be purchased through paying Senior Dues. These can be paid through SchoolCash.
5. Current ORHS Seniors cannot be registered as guests at prom. Guests must be of high school age, not in Junior High, and no older than 20. Guest registration is available on SchoolCash and must be linked with the senior who is attending prom.
6. Students must be in formal dress code for prom. See insert.
7. **There will be a mandatory meeting for all seniors on April 23, 2021 at 9:15am in the Old Gym. Seniors will report to 2nd block, and teachers will escort them to the meeting. After the meeting seniors will be allowed to leave campus to get ready for prom.**

Senior Signs, Top 15% Events, Senior Awards

Senior Signs. Every senior will receive a Class of 2021 graduate sign courtesy of ORHS. Signs will be ready for pick up on April 30, 2021.

Top 15% Honor Luncheon. This event will take place on May 6, 2021. This is for seniors who graduate within the top 15% of this year's class. We will give them their honor graduate stoles, a yard sign, and a special yard sign for our Salutatorian and Valedictorian. Dress is business casual.

Senior Awards. Senior Awards are scheduled for an in-person ceremony on May 12, 2021 in the main gym at 6:30 pm. Each senior awardee will receive two tickets to the event. Masks will be required of guests and

awardees. More information about this event will come from Molly Gibson, College and Career Counselor. Dress for Senior Awards is business casual. No shorts or jeans.

Caps, Gowns, and Announcements. Announcements ordered through Herff Jones will be available for Pick-up on April 22, 2021 during all lunches on the Senior Campus.

Caps and Gowns will be available for students on May 18, 2021 after the 3rd period final. Students who are exempt or remote must make arrangements to come to ORHS after 3rd period on May 18, 2021 to pick up their Cap and Gown.

Graduation Practice and Senior Picnic. Graduation Practice will be on May 20, 2021. Students need to be at Oak Ridge High School by 8:30 am in the New Gym. We will take busses to the Pavilion to walk through graduation practice. After practice we will have our senior picnic at Town Green Park. From there we will take busses back to ORHS and students will receive their graduation tickets before heading home.

Graduation. Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 2021 at Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. The ceremony will begin promptly at 7:30pm, with doors opening at 6:30pm. Graduates must arrive by 6:30pm in order for us to line up and proceed.

Each graduate will receive 4 tickets together under the covered section of the Pavilion. The tickets will be spaced apart from other families as to aid in social distancing. We are asking that all guests wear masks during the ceremony.

Additional seating that will be available on a first come basis. These seats cannot be reserved ahead of the ceremony and are not guaranteed. There will also be seating available on the lawn. Many parents and students ask if more than 4 people can come to graduation – the answer is yes. However, we will only be able to guarantee seats together under the covered section for four people per graduate.

Graduation is a formal event. I expect graduates to wear slacks or a dress, dress shirts or blouses, a tie, and dress shoes (no flip flops). I highly recommend that high heels be avoided as footwear.

Senior Exam Exemptions and Hold List. Seniors are able to exempt any exam for a course in which they have an average of 80 or better for this semester. There are no attendance implications impacting the exemption policy this year, as there has been in years past.

Students can attend school in person if they are exempt or they can attend remotely by checking in to their class through Canvas. (See Senior Exam schedule insert).

Senior Hold List. Before a senior can attend prom or get their graduation tickets, they must be cleared off of our Hold List. Student are put on the hold list when they have school owned items (uniforms, instruments, textbooks, etc.) or owe fees for classes that have not been paid. To be removed from the hold list a student must return the item OR pay for the value of the lost item.

I hope this letter gives you some information and answers some questions for you. As always if there is anything I can do to be of assistance; please do not hesitate to contact me.

Be well,

AJ LiVecchi, Ed.D.
Principal, Oak Ridge Senior High School