April 30, 2021

Dear Families of Arlington High School Class of 2021:

Now that New York State has provided detailed guidance around graduation ceremonies for the spring of 2021, we wanted to share with you how our current plans are shaping up. We are monitoring updates from New York State and the Department of Health, and will make adjustments should any new guidance be released. The current guidance pertaining to graduation events from New York State can be found by clicking this link.

**Dutchess Stadium**

On Saturday, June 12, 2021, (rain date on June 13) Arlington High School will hold an outdoor graduation ceremony at Dutchess Stadium. Due to the size of the senior class, and the restrictions in place, we will hold two ceremonies at the stadium. The first ceremony is at 8:00 a.m., with the second ceremony beginning at 11:30 a.m. Since June 12 is also the sectional championship weekend, we will be reserving a number of spots for our senior athletes at the morning session. This event will be live-streamed to the community, and each student will currently be allotted 4 tickets for the ceremony.

As per the guidance outlined by New York State – all participants, including spectators, in this ceremony will be required to provide one of the following:

- Proof of a Covid-19 vaccination;
- Proof of a negative Covid-19 test administered within 72 hours of the ceremony;
- Proof of recovery from a medically diagnosed case of Covid-19 within 90 days leading up to the ceremony, but excluding any immediate quarantine orders.

Please know that this is a ceremony open to all potential graduates; however, this event does not guarantee graduation from Arlington High School. There will still be 10 days of school after this event, during which time students may have final exams, benchmark assessments, and other assignments due. The expectation is that the students who participate in this event remain engaged in their classes and complete all of the necessary coursework to successfully graduate.

**Drive-Through Ceremony**

On Friday, June 25, and Saturday, June 26, there will be a drive-through graduation ceremony at Arlington High School. Families will be assigned a window of time by guidance counselor, to drive to the Fritz Jordan Arch for a personalized graduation. At this event, there is no limit to the number of people that can accompany a graduate. This is also the time that graduates will be
handed their high school diploma, documenting their official graduation from Arlington High School.

**Cap and Gown Distribution, and Timeslot Sign-up**
Graduation materials, including honor keys and honor cords, caps, and gowns will be distributed on May 14, between 10:00 and 3:00, from the gym 2 lobby. Students who are remote will be able to drive to the high school and pick up these materials after school. Any student who is unable to pick up these materials on May 14 will be able to procure them from the central office until June 11.

On June 1, a Google Form to sign-up for either the 8:00 a.m. or the 11:30 a.m. timeslot for the June 12 Dutchess Stadium ceremony will be emailed and posted to the high school website. At that time, we will also be asking families about their intentions for participating in either/or/or both the June 12 ceremony and the drive-through ceremony. Students that attend the June 12 ceremony but choose not to participate in the drive-through ceremony may pick up their diplomas separate from the drive-through graduation.

Details regarding ticket distribution will be released soon, and will include the steps necessary in order to attest to proof of vaccination/recovery/negative test.

Thank you,

John Orcutt  
Executive Principal  
Arlington High School

Note: In case the link to the NYS guidance does no work on your device, you can copy this URL to your browser:  