

July 9, 2020

Dear TSD seniors, parents and guardians,

Through Thompson School District's collaboration with the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, we have been given a variance that allows us to host graduation ceremonies to celebrate our Class of 2020 graduates. With this variance, we will be able to honor seniors with their diplomas and a short ceremony. In this letter we would like to provide more details regarding the logistics for our following in-person graduation ceremonies.

### **Graduation Ceremony Dates, Times and Locations**

Due to the variance, we are not able to host all graduation ceremonies on Saturday, July 18. The schedule below was created using the same protocol used to determine the order of the graduations when they are on the same day.

**Thursday, July 16 - Events held at Thompson Valley High School, 1669 Eagle Drive, Loveland, CO 80537**

2:00 p.m. Ferguson HS - Thompson Valley High School Auditorium

*FHS will distribute tickets on July 14th. More details will be coming soon from the school.*

6:00 p.m. Berthoud HS - Ray Patterson Field

*BHS will distribute tickets on July 13 from 5-7 pm in the front driveway loop. If needed, the school will also distribute them on July 14 from 5-6 pm. More details will be coming soon from BHS.*

**Friday, July 17 - Events held at Thompson Valley High School, 1669 Eagle Drive, Loveland, CO 80537**

6:00 pm. Loveland HS - Ray Patterson Field

*LHS will distribute tickets on the evenings of July 13 and 14th from 5-7 each night. The format will be the same as what was used for cap and gown distribution. More details will be coming soon from LHS.*

**Saturday, July 18 - Events held at Thompson Valley High School, 1669 Eagle Drive, Loveland, CO 80537**

8:30 a.m. Mountain View HS - Ray Patterson Field

*MVHS will distribute tickets on July 13 and July 14 from 5-7 pm in the front driveway loop. More details will be coming soon from MVHS.*

6:00 p.m. Thompson Valley HS - Ray Patterson Field

*TVHS will ask students/parents to pick up their tickets in the same manner they collected their graduation regalia. Ticket pick up will be on Tuesday, July 14th from 5-7 p.m. More details coming soon from TVHS.*

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**Important Survey for All Families:** In order for us to better prepare for the setup of each in-person graduation ceremony, please complete the following survey by July 12, 2020: [Student and Family In-Person Graduation Ceremony Survey](#)

**On-line Stream:** A live online stream is planned to be in place for the in-person ceremonies. More information will be provided soon.

**Masks and Face Coverings:** A mask or face covering will be required for all persons entering the facility for graduation. This includes all graduates, district staff and guests. Please note that this is a strict requirement from county health officials that must be fully enforced. The district will provide a mask for all graduates in attendance.

**Family Seating:** Families will be required to sit in the exact seats as designated on their tickets. District staff will be in the stands to assist families with finding their seats. ADA accommodations and district staff assistance for students will be available as well. Additional children will not be permitted into the facility unless they are able to sit on an adult's lap.

**Parking:** All vehicles will enter the Thompson Valley High School parking lot on the south side. All vehicles will exit the property on the north side of the lot onto 1st Street. Parking spots will be limited and the district is requiring all graduates to ride with their chosen guests in the same vehicle. Parking to assist visitors with disabilities will also be available. Guests who need ADA accommodations will need to be in possession of the appropriate documentation.

**Spectators/ Walk-up Restrictions:** The variance approval the district received from the county is very specific and restrictive. Because of this, we are not able to allow spectators outside of the fence to view the ceremony.

**Graduation Ceremony Logistics**

County officials have defined expectations within our granted variance for our in-person graduation ceremonies. Here are some of the logistics:

- 1) Contact Tracing: Each graduate will only be allowed two tickets so that attendance can be traced by county professionals if necessary.
- 2) All students will be required to wear a district face mask. Families, please bring your own face mask or face covering with you. Staff will either receive a district face mask or will use their own covering. Face coverings need to be worn from the time you enter until the time you leave the ceremony site.
- 3) The ceremony will be limited to two speeches. We will have more speeches from students and staff during the virtual ceremony.
- 4) No choir, band and orchestra live performances can occur. We can have choir, band or orchestra performances at the virtual ceremony.
- 5) Family members must remain in their assigned seats at all times and they must be six feet apart from other attendees in the stands.
- 6) There will be organized entry and exit of the facility to minimize social gatherings. Each spectator will have a ticket with a designated entry and exit gate.
- 7) Social distancing is a requirement in the approved variance. Please be aware of this requirement during all phases of the graduation celebration.

### **Virtual Graduation Ceremony**

TSD will honor students with an additional virtual graduation ceremony on July 25. Those ceremonies will be streamed at the times noted below. The link for this virtual ceremony will be sent to graduates' TSD email accounts.

#### **Saturday, July 25**

8:30 a.m. Berthoud High School

12:00 noon Loveland High School

3:30 p.m. Mountain View High School

7:00 p.m. Thompson Valley High School

FHS details yet to come

The virtual ceremony is a professionally produced event that will include all graduates and all of the planned speeches that would have been given had the events been held in May as originally planned. Due to the restrictions laid out by Larimer County, the in-person event will not have all of the planned speeches and some students may be unable to attend for a variety of reasons. Thus, the virtual ceremony is the only event that will best reflect the entire Class of 2020 and the speakers they selected, if graduates complete the needed steps.

Sincerely,

Theo Robison  
Director of Secondary Schools