



Pocono Mountain West High School

Dr. Mark A. Wade, *Principal*

Mrs. Brenda Fladger, *Assistant Principal*
Ms. Melanie Piccarreta, *Assistant Principal*
Mr. John T. Richards, *Assistant Principal*

May 26, 2020

Dear Parents and guardians,

As your child's high school career swiftly draws closer and after thirteen years of commitment and effort, our attention now focuses on the culminating event, graduation. This year's commencement ceremony will begin at 10:00 AM on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at the Pocono Raceway. Both Pocono Raceway and Blue Ridge Cable TV-13 will lend their support to this event.

Due to the Covid pandemic, the formatting for our ceremony will be uniquely different, and will be taking place within our vehicles at the Raceway. Raceway personnel will arrange students' vehicles in a line alphabetically. Students, families, and guests will be able to listen to the event from the Raceway radio station, 87.9 FM. Double-sided video boards that are visible from the infield and the track will project images and videos of graduates. During the name reading section, with the announcement of each student's name, the vehicles carrying each graduate will drive a short distance across the finish line. During this time, a displayed image of the senior student and their name, alongside a video of the student crossing the finish line will be on the video boards.

To ensure this event is dignified, safe, and memorable for you and your graduates, we are asking for your assistance. While the graduation takes place at the Pocono Raceway, be reminded that it is a ceremony, and as such, it comes with expectations of decorum. We sincerely request that you allow our seniors to have a memorable milestone. **Vehicles should refrain from honking horns during the ceremony, and guests are required to remain in their vehicles at all times.** We are excited about this unique Graduation Ceremony for the class of 2020, and we are optimistic the experience will be memorable for all.

Additionally, given the current circumstances, we will depart from the norm and provide our students with their diplomas during the senior care package distribution. This will occur in a drive thru fashion in the B (bus) -Lot of the West High School on June 16, 17, and 18, 2020, between 9 AM and 12 PM. Students will also be provided with senior gift items including a car magnet that needs to be placed on the vehicles carrying the graduates during the ceremony. Care packages will also include caps and gowns, graduation programs and other gifts. Yearbooks will also be available for purchase during the scheduled pick up times if students did not have an opportunity to purchase one prior. The cost will be \$55 exact change in cash only. Information that is more specific is included in the corresponding graduation packet.

Thank you for your assistance in making the 2020 commencement ceremony of Pocono Mountain West High School one of which we can all be proud.

Respectfully,

Dr. Mark A. Wade