

Dear 8th Grade Families,

I am excited to share with you our plans for celebrating your children during Grad Week 2020. As you know, we have had to change and adapt our planning to meet the county health ordinances. We think what we have created will be a fun way to celebrate your families and the accomplishments of your children. See below for details:

Grad Week: June 8 - June 12, 2020

Monday, June 8 - Graduation Package Pick-up (Mandatory): This graduation “package” will include the following:

- A packet of information that outlines the requirements and details of the final celebration on Friday
- A gift from the PTO, and,
- A graduation gown, if you are interested, which will be loaned to your family if you would like to take photographs.

All families must complete [this form](#) to help us with the pick-up plan on June 8.

Monday, June 8 - 8th Grade Awards Online Zoom Event (by invitation only), 2:30 - 4 pm: Each year Hillview honors its 8th graders who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in our core academic subjects, physical education, and elective programs. In addition, there will be other special recognitions during this event, such as Block H, Biliteracy Attainment, and Faculty Awards. Parents and guardians, you will receive notification that your child has received some recognition via email. It will not specify the honor(s), so there will be an element of surprise. We ask that families attend the Zoom event with their 8th grade honoree.

Wednesday, June 10 - Return iPad and Materials to Hillview: Please watch for announcements from the school about your designated return time. We will organize a carline drop off for iPads and accessories, textbooks, library books, and any other materials that have been loaned to your 8th grader. Please note that this is not a simple drop-off; iPads will need to be scanned in by our staff.

Friday, June 12- MPCSD and Hillview Middle School Celebrate your Graduate. This celebration will include a “drive-through” style recognition, academy by academy. Each academy - Explorers, Pioneers, and Trailblazers - will be assigned a different time slot to participate. Your family, along with the graduate in the passenger seat, will drive down Santa Cruz Avenue, turning right on Elder and then entering the Hillview Drive. At the traffic circle, each car will then pause, and the graduate will be given their diploma from Mr. Haug. Photographers will be there to capture the special moment. We encourage you to decorate your vehicles (no motorcycles or convertibles with the top down are permitted) to pay special

tribute to your child. We encourage creativity to make the experience and celebration as special and memorable as possible.

In addition, because we recently learned that yearbooks will not be available until later this summer, we will be creating a digital memory book just for the Eighth Grade. In the coming days, I will distribute a link that you can access. Through this platform, your family will be able to upload photos and fill in information about your child's Hillview memories and activities, as well as the next steps in their education. This will be a way for our 8th graders to see and remember friends and memories from Hillview. We want families to have oversight and input on the creation of the page, but it should be primarily authored by your 8th grader. I really look forward to seeing what our students create!

I truly appreciate your patience during this process. We have been receiving daily updates about requirements, as this health crisis has presented ever moving targets. And as a larger school, with just over 300 graduates, we have restrictions that need to be honored to keep everyone healthy and safe. Thank you in advance for abiding by the guidelines we will lay out that need to occur for this event to take place. Our June 12 event will qualify as a "Highly Regulated Vehicle-Based Gathering," and you can get an idea of what our guidelines will entail by reviewing [the County Health Order on such gatherings](#).

I am so proud of our graduates. They have demonstrated more resilience than we could have imagined during this spring! During the week of June 8, we look forward to sending them off in style as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

Thank you, and be well.

All the best,

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