April 29, 2020

Dear Class of 2020,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure you are informed and that we are on the same page of understanding regarding the close of the 2020 school year. As was shared in an email letter to you dated March 27, there were then many uncertainties moving forward; unfortunately that remains the case. Student committees have been formed and are providing input to school leaders, but we remain in a holding plan on our end-of-the-year events. Thank you to the many students and staff that have been involved in our contingency planning. Let’s review several key items and significant events:

| Academic Grading Plan | • Students still need 23 credits to earn a diploma.  
|                       | • Cohort of 2020 students are to remain engaged in online learning through May 28.  
|                       | • For each class, students will earn semester credit with either a traditional letter grade (A, B, C, D, E) which will impact a student’s GPA OR an ‘S’ (Satisfactory) mark which will not impact a student’s GPA. The student will have the opportunity to decide which mark/grade will show on their official transcript. |
| Senior Honors Night   | • Honors Night is an invitation only award ceremony recognizing a school’s highest Class of 2020 achievers.  
|                       | • Each high school’s originally scheduled dates have been postponed.  
|                       | • Plans are currently underway to make this event a virtual event that will take place during the week of May 25 or June 1. |
| Senior Prom           | • Each school’s originally scheduled Senior Prom dates have been postponed.  
|                       | • Contingency plans include rescheduling each Prom at a later date with the possibility of changing the venue to each home high school. |
| Commencement Ceremony | • The originally scheduled weekend of LPS Commencement ceremonies (May 29, 30, 31) has not been removed from consideration, but continuing limitations on public gatherings |
and social distancing guidelines make it a highly unlikely scenario.
- Contingency plans include rescheduling at USA Hockey Arena for later in the summer, having a vehicle parade ceremony, multiple ceremonies at each school, or a remote and digital ceremony.

Please know we share in your concerns for the significance of these milestone events. Certainly we empathize with you regarding your sense that the rug has been pulled out from under the excitement and the sentiments associated with the end of your K-12 public school educational journey. We encourage you not to let COVID-19 define the end of your high school days. Perhaps the big lessons we learn during this experience are those lasting life lessons of gratitude and grit, and of perseverance and perspective.

We are asking you to share your thoughts on the several surveys attached to this letter by the end of the day on Friday, May 1. Please continue to demonstrate your self-discipline and make healthy and safe choices for yourself, your family and friends, and all those around you. We march together through this challenging and historic moment in time.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Willenborg
Director of Secondary Schools

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