



To: OCUSD School board/ Dr. Mahoney
From: Dr. Heidi Deininger, OHS Principal
Re: Moving Graduation 2021
Date: 10.30.2020

Proposal: Move the 2021 graduation date from the traditional Sunday of Memorial Day weekend (May 30, 2021) to the evening of Saturday, May 15th, 2020. Host graduation in the stadium with a stage on the home sidelines, graduates on the track (seated) and family members spread out in the home bleachers.

Rationale: May 30th is very late. Our last day of student attendance for all students is May 19th, 2021. Seniors will be done the Friday prior to this (Friday, May 14th), as they will not be taking finals when the rest of the high school students take them. Waiting over two weeks to hold graduation is excessive.

Back Up date due to snow/cold days or inclement weather (under Covid regulations) – Saturday, May 22

Desired Graduation Plan: Our desired plan is to host graduation in the stadium, using the stage we had last year. After discussion with Mr. Nesemeier, we determined that we could put the stage on the grassy sideline, facing the home bleachers, and have the graduates on the track. Families could sit in the home bleachers. By having the stage on the sidelines, we would not need a tarp on the field and we could limit walking on the field.

Alternative Plans (weather/Covid): If rain is predicted on the morning of graduation, we would move the event into the BHC, *if we are no longer under Covid regulations*. If we are still under Covid regulations, we would suggest graduation be held on the alternative date of May 22, outside. When we were in tier 3 regulations, we were allowed to have 20% capacity in our stadium. We are confident that we can get to tier 3 regulations again, allowing graduates to have a set number of tickets for family members.

If we are under the strictest Covid regulations, as we were last year (and we can't have anyone in the stadium or the BHC), we propose that we do the drive in graduation, the exact same way. We would like to do it either the evening of May 15 or May 22.

If we make the decision sooner, rather than later, families will have plenty of time to plan for the date change.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mission: Educate students to be lifelong learners who are productive, responsible citizens.

Dr. Heidi Deininger, Principal **OREGON HIGH SCHOOL** Mike Lawton, Activities Director
210 South 10th Street, Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 815-732-5300 www.ocusd.net



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