

Mill Valley High School
De Soto Unified School District #232
5900 Monticello Road
Shawnee, KS 66226
Phone: (913) 422-4351
Fax: (913) 422-4039
<https://mvhs.usd232.org>



We ARE Mill Valley!
Achievement—Responsibility—Empowerment

March 13, 2020

Dear Graduating Senior and Parent/Guardian:

Graduation is quickly approaching! As you know, the graduation ceremony will be held Saturday, May 16, 2020 at 9:00am at the outdoor athletic stadium (weather permitting). While this is a great opportunity for our ceremony, we have to make certain alternate plans are in place. This letter is intended to inform you of important information about upcoming events and the graduation process.

- Prepare Laptops (clean etc) as Per Instructions

Wednesday & Thursday, May 6 & 7, 2020

- Seniors receive check-out packets during English class (includes Transcript Request Form and Check-out Sheet).

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

- Senior Transcript Requests.
 - Transcript Request Form due to Ms. Thom as you pick up your cap and gown.
 - In order to receive your cap/gown and transcripts to be sent, you must submit requests at this time.
- Pick up cap/gown and ticket distribution (6 per student for indoor ceremony) in the Senior Café.
 - Students will be called to the Senior Café during seminar.
 - Seniors with shortened schedules need to make arrangements to be here during seminar. Enter west/main doors.

Thursday, May 14, 2020

- All senior examinations completed by the end of third block.
- Lunch at MVHS and locker clean-out.
- **Important/Mandatory Senior Class Meeting/Graduation Rehearsal-Main Gymnasium-12:38pm (Students with shortened days are expected to attend.)**
- Check-out sheets submitted to Ms. Thom anytime on May 14.
 - Diplomas will not be issued until checkout sheets are completed.

Friday, May 15, 2020

- Senior Awards Ceremony-8:30am MVHS Gymnasium.
- Parents/Guardians plus no more than four guests (including siblings).
 - You will receive parking instructions via skyward/e-mail/website/Principal's Message.

Saturday, May 16, 2020

- Students report to the Media Center no later than 8:00am. Enter the building through the **Media Center doors only**. All other doors will be locked! **REMEMBER YOUR CAP AND GOWN!** No guests will be allowed in the building.
- Graduation ceremony begins at **9:00am** (approximately 1 hour in length).
- After ceremony report to Media Center to pick up diploma.
 - Seniors still competing in spring sports will receive their diplomas after equipment is turned in and cleared by coaches. Diplomas can be picked up from Ms. Thom in the Counseling Office until June 3.

Graduation may be the most prestigious event experienced by a graduating senior. In order to make the event a memorable experience for all in attendance, please remember the following:

- **Commencement is a formal and dignified ceremony in which our students are honored for their accomplishments.**
- Attendance is strictly voluntary and students who attend are expected to follow the expectations of the ceremony. Seniors choosing not to attend should contact the office immediately.
- Students have a right to a transcript, but not to a diploma. The school can withhold a diploma for unacceptable behavior leading up to and during commencement or for any other obligations that need to be addressed.
- There is a time and place for celebrating one's achievements. MVHS Commencement should be recognition of the *collective* achievements of the graduating class to be cherished by all in attendance.
- Students are expected to dress appropriately. Also note, graduates may not wear heels on the turf.
- Caps and gowns may not be altered in any way. No exceptions.
- Students need to arrive at MVHS promptly on the day of the ceremony with cap and gown. If pins are needed to keep the cap in place, students should bring their own. Faculty members will check for appropriate attire.
- Family members will not be allowed in the building with their students prior to the ceremony. Students will proceed from the high school to the athletic stadium or gymnasium (depending on weather).
- In order to protect the dignity of the ceremony, there will not be a place for family to take pictures on the field or track (or on the gymnasium floor).
 - Pictures will be taken by Interstate Studios during the ceremony as students cross the stage. To order other graduation photos visit <https://interstatestudiopublishingco1.shootproof.com/MVHS2020>.
 - Each family will receive a **free** 8"x10" color photo. These photos are live and may not be perfect. See next bullets.
 - The photos will be posted within 10 business days of graduation.
 - Additionally, you have the opportunity to schedule a more formal picture session with Interstate and have pictures taken at their site.
- If the ceremony is outside, please limit seat saving to a reasonable number of **immediate family members**. If the bleachers are full, others may line the fence surrounding the track. No visitors will be allowed on the track or the field other than the designated handicap section. After the ceremony, visitors may greet graduates after they leave the field. It is highly recommended that you limit guests to the outdoor graduation as well. There is not an unlimited amount of space.
- **If indoors**, save seats for your party only (not exceeding 6 - including parents/siblings per student). Please be courteous and sit closely.
- Saving seats is not an option after 8:30am.

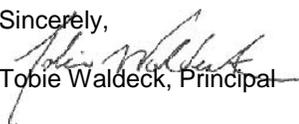
The athletic outdoor stadium or gymnasium will open for seating at 7:30am. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will move to the gymnasium with some additional seating in the theatre. The decision to move to the gymnasium will be made as quickly as possible prior to the event. Please check our website the evening prior and continue checking if rain, high heat, cold or high winds are possible. We will post the decision on our website (<http://mvhs.usd232.org>), send a Skyward E-mail, tweet and a text message. When making decisions about where to sit in the outdoor venue, please consider temperature, humidity, personal health, etc. If health is a concern, sit close to the ground and exits.

On Tuesday, May 12, **each student will receive 6 tickets (for indoor ceremony) to take to their families for distribution.** Only those with tickets will be allowed (exceptions cannot be made) to enter the gymnasium. Ticket holders include all family/siblings and friends regardless of age. Please know we must adhere to the ticket system in the gymnasium. All others will be sent to the theatre (for the live broadcast) until full. In addition, *the district will live stream the graduation outside of the building*. The doors will open at 7:30am for seating. Guests must enter through the Jaguar Activities Entrance **or** the Senior Café only (map to be provided on-line). All other doors will be locked for security purposes. Seating in the gymnasium will end at 8:45am (so the graduates can get organized) and all others will be sent to the auditorium to watch the video transmission of the event (until the auditorium is full).

Interpreter services and handicap seating will be located on the track (outside) or on the floor (inside) for Commencement. We will provide handicap parking in two locations and we will provide golf carts to assist with the walk. Maps/diagrams of each venue will also be provided soon.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this event, please contact the office at (913) 422-4351. Please know we will continue to work through this process and we will continue communicating. Check our website (*Graduation Link* and the *Message from the Principal*) for information. Thank you for your support and best wishes.

Sincerely,



Tobie Waldeck, Principal