

Osage Community School District

The Mission of the Osage Community Schools is to sustain and enhance a caring community to produce enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

OCSD Class of 2020,

First and foremost, how are you? I miss you all! I hope you are well. The days we are living through as a community and society together are unprecedented in any of our lifetimes. The last months of your senior year should not be this way! You should be enjoying spring sports, performing at band and choir concerts, FFA activities, and counting down the days as you wait to get out of here for the last time.

We are missing things like our morning announcements by Issac Brumm, walking laps in the hallway, hanging in the Library with Susie, last-minute test cramming, hurried scholarship applications being turned in at the office, practices, and even things like buying Mt. Dew from Matt Olson in the hallways! These things and many more have been taken away from us. Individually, these are all small things, but they add up to a big experience that you are missing. The life lesson is sometimes you don't know what you got until it's gone.

This experience reminds us there are very few things over which we really have control. Right now, we have more questions than answers.

- Will we come back to school this spring? If so, when?
- Will we be able to have a prom?
- What will happen with senior awards night, our graduation ceremony, etc?

The short answer to these questions is, we don't know. We hope to know more soon but this situation changes hour-to-hour and day-to-day and as a school, we look to our state leaders for guidance. I can tell you that, due to the extension of social distancing guidelines by the President, we will not be able to hold prom as planned on April 18th. We are working on alternate dates of May 2nd and if that is not safe yet then June 20th.

What I can promise you are a few things:

- We are working every day to make the best decisions possible in light of the current situation.
- This closure **WILL NOT** keep any of you from graduating on time.
- This closure **WILL NOT** prevent you from receiving the scholarships and awards you have earned.
- We **WILL** find a way to hold a graduation ceremony in some way and at some point. Hold June 21st as a back-up date if May 17th is not allowed. We are committed to celebrating you and recognizing the great things you've accomplished and the great young adults you have become. Starting on Thursday, we are starting to spotlight seniors on our social media platforms. These spotlights will include your submitted senior picture and the survey questions I sent you last week. If you have not already, please fill out the google form.

We miss each and every one of you and truly hope to see you soon!! Please reach out to me or your teachers if you have any questions. Please do your part and follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC and Department of Public Health to ensure the safety of not only yourself, your families, and your community. This is how we move through this together. We are OSAGE!!!

With Devils Pride until we are back together in the halls of OCHS,
Mrs. Schwamman

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