



MONTEREY HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Plainsmen

May 29, 2020

Dear Monterey Graduate,

Congratulations future graduate!!!! We are so proud that your coursework and other requirements are almost complete. We are also very glad that we get to celebrate your day with a graduation ceremony. These past weeks have been very stressful and a learning curve for all. We have learned grace, patience, and flexibility. But now we get to look forward to watching you walk across the stage **June 5th**. Although this graduation may not be the traditional ceremony we've always had, in many ways it will be more special and emotional because your senior year was drastically altered. Activities, events and friends were taken from your end of the year joy. So June 5th brings us together to share one more moment as high school Plainsmen.

The district has finalized logistics regarding graduation. According to TEA guidelines, school districts cannot have a graduation rehearsal. So below are some very important points for you to know prior to your special day.

Graduation Ceremony:

*Friday June 5, 2020 - 8:00p.m.
Lowrey Field at PlainsCapital Park
1301 66th St.-Lubbock*

Guidelines for Graduation:

- It is recommended that family members & guests of the graduate arrive together and be seated as a group if at all possible.
- Graduation is a ticketed event. Therefore, no one without a ticket will gain entrance into the stadium.
- It is strongly recommended that family members and graduates wear facial coverings.
- Social distancing among graduates and families must be maintained at all times. There should be no gatherings before, during and after the ceremony.
- It is recommended that graduates and guests leave the premises immediately following the event.
- The PlainsCapital Park "Clear Bag Policy" will remain in effect for graduation.
- No outside food or drink is allowed in the stadium. Bottled water will be offered to all graduates and guests.
- For anyone not in attendance, the graduation ceremony will be televised on various channels. Please see the Lubbock ISD website for specifics regarding the streaming of graduation:
<https://www.lubbockisd.org/Page/4831>

PlainsCapital Park Staging Information:

- The front of the stage will be at the ten yard line near the jumbo tron at the South end of the field.
- Graduates will be facing the stage and seated in rows down the length of the field. Chairs will be distanced six feet apart.
- Seats will be in alphabetical order.
- As seniors walk, they will cross in front of the stage from the East side to the West side.

Graduate Information:

- Seniors must arrive **no later than 7:15pm** dressed in cap & gown, ready for the ceremony.
- If seniors drive separately from family, they will park on the South end parking lot (behind the jumbo tron).
- **Seniors MUST enter the stadium through the Southwest gate where each senior will be screened and escorted to the field.**
- **NOTHING** is allowed in your pockets or on your person upon entering the field except car keys. Please leave phones, purses, bags, backpacks and all other personal items at home or with your family. If any senior arrives

with personal items, he/she will be asked to find a place to hold belongings outside of the stadium until after the ceremony.

- Once screened, seniors will find their seat on the field and wait for instructions. Seats will be in alphabetical order with a name card taped on the seats.
- **Hang on to your name card!** Seat name cards will be used for announcing graduates as they cross in front of the stage.
- MHS staff will be ushering you throughout the ceremony. Pay attention to them!
- There will NOT be a processional of graduates entering, but will be a recessional exiting the field.
- There is a lot of standing and sitting as we recognize our graduates for their accomplishments. The first half of the graduation ceremony consists of the senior class student portion and recognition of graduates by Mr. Purkeypile.
- When lining up to receive your diploma, you will maintain social distancing and line up one row at a time. The ushers will direct you when to line up and where to stand.
- You must take your name card with you as you line up to cross the stage so that the announcer can pronounce your name correctly.
- Graduates will walk in front of the stage and will receive the diploma cover from one of LISD's Board Members. No hand shaking or embracing is allowed. There will be a moment you will pause for pictures and a jumbotron pose.
- After receiving your diploma cover, you will proceed to the diploma table where the counselors will give you an envelope containing your official diploma and High Honor Plaque if applicable.
- You will then fall in line back to your seat as ushers direct you.
- Even though many seats may be empty, you will fill all seats as you return to your seating area.
- Due to guidelines, the tossing of caps is NOT allowed.
- Once the ceremony concludes, the graduates will participate in the recessional, being led around the football field prior to being escorted out of the same Southwest gate.
- Graduates are strongly recommended to leave the premises upon exiting the field. Gatherings of graduates and family will not be allowed.
- Social distancing will be maintained at all times.

Graduate Expectations:

Graduation is about your family watching you celebrate this important day. Additionally, Monterey is known for its very traditional and formal ceremony. Please help make this ceremony flawless and perfect for your family and for the tradition that is carried on year after year.

- Many eyes are on you. Be formal, classy and perfect!
- Maintain a minimum of 6 ft. between you and other graduates.
- Watch your ushers for specific instructions throughout the ceremony.
- Gentlemen, remove your cap during the Pledge and National Anthem.

Dress Code Guidelines:

- Dress code expectations for graduation will be maintained. Please keep in mind that it will be hot prior to sunset.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO HEELS OF ANYKIND WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD. ONLY FLATS OR WEDGES ARE ALLOWED.**

The class of 2020 is winding to a close. Your senior year was like none you've ever imagined. Nothing changes the fact that you have had four years as Monterey Plainsmen. You've laughed, cried and developed lifelong friendships. You are now preparing to close this chapter and open one that will take you on a great journey into the future. The Monterey staff look forward to celebrating this special evening with you.