

Students and Parents,

There has been a level of confusion around graduation. I have tried to communicate only when we had clear and concise information. That day has come, and so I would like to share information about both the virtual graduation and the live ceremony.

### **Virtual Graduation**

Sheldon High School will hold a virtual graduation ceremony honoring all graduating seniors at the school. The Virtual Graduation is considered the official commencement of the class of 2021, as it will be available to all graduating seniors and their families.

The virtual graduation ceremony for all Sheldon students will be live-streamed on Thursday, June 10 at 6:30. The IHS graduation ceremony will be live-streamed at 7:00. These ceremonies will be available to watch not only on the night of June 10th, but for many months in the future as well. There is no limit on spectators, and families and friends can watch from any location.

For Sheldon's Virtual Graduation there will be multiple speakers and performers from the Class of 2021. There will also be short remarks from our superintendent, the school board, and the building principal. All of our graduating seniors will be honored, with their picture being shown while their name is read. Seniors have uploaded their pictures and a quote and we are working to put that information together for the company that produces the event.

*(Please remember that we have two schools within Sheldon: Sheldon Classic and International High School (IHS). Sheldon Classic includes all of the students that are in attendance at Sheldon, while the IHS students will have an additional graduation ceremony for their school within a school.)*

### **Live Graduation Ceremony**

To honor our students' and families' wishes to have a safe, in-person graduation during the pandemic, Sheldon High School also will hold an in-person event for students who choose to participate.

Due to the size constraints of such a large graduating class Sheldon High School will need to have two ceremonies on the same night to maximize the possibility of spectator attendance at Dennis Ludwig Stadium here on the campus of Sheldon. Since IHS has a smaller graduating class we will be able to have one ceremony for their graduating class. For the Sheldon graduation we will be splitting the class alphabetically as listed below. The seating will be sanitized before the next group of students and guests enter the stadium. The ceremonies will be held on the following dates and times:

June 11        IHS - Sheldon's Dennis Ludwig stadium at 7:00 pm  
June 16        SHS - Sheldon's Dennis Ludwig stadium at 5:30 pm - Letters A-K  
June 16        SHS - Sheldon's Dennis Ludwig stadium at 7:30 pm - Letters L-Z

The live event will be outside, rain or shine. All participants and spectators must wear face coverings consistently and correctly, and must maintain 6 feet of physical distance from people not in their immediate household. Students and families are encouraged but not required to be vaccinated.

Attendance will be limited. The number of spectators will be determined by the county's risk level at the time of the event. The number of spectators per student can be seen below:

- Extreme Risk: Members of the graduating class only (no on-site spectators)
- High or Moderate Risk: Each graduate will receive two tickets for guests

A link to a live broadcast of all events during the live ceremony will be posted on the Sheldon High School website so people who cannot attend or obtain a ticket will be able to watch the ceremony and take part in this important rite of passage.

My hope is that this message helps to alleviate the stress of uncertainty around graduation. We will continue to get you more information as we receive it.

Respectfully,

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