

Dear Seniors,

This certainly was not the way you envisioned your final year of high school, and for that we are sorry. The losses you've incurred during your last few months of school have been significant, but we challenge you to reframe your loss by examining what you've gained. This experience has and will continue to shape your character and the strength of your will. You are going to be a resilient and strong generation. You are growing in flexibility, adaptability, courage, determination, and perseverance. You will lead your community, your state, and your country much better than we adults are leading you at this moment. We are confident in you, our future leaders.

So what's up with e-Learning?

Beginning Monday, May 4, teachers will not issue new assignments. During the month of May, students will work on improving their previously submitted assignments or turning in assignments that have not been completed. It is very important to use this time well. You can do it!

The last day for e-Learning for all seniors that have completed the requirements is May 12, 2020. That was to be your last day of class from the beginning of the year. Note: any senior that has not completed e-Learning must complete the assignments before grades can be calculated, credits issued, and diplomas awarded. **E-Learning was never optional.**

Seniors having completed e-Learning will clean out their hall and PE lockers and turn in their books, computers, uniforms and any other property of Seneca High School on Friday, May 15, 2020 according to the schedule below.

Class of 2020

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Names</i>
Friday, May 15	10:00 - 10:30	Seniors	Applebee – Davis (22)
Friday, May 15	10:30 - 11:00	Seniors	Dillow – Knoebel (22)
Friday, May 15	11:00 - 11:30	Seniors	Krause – Rexroat (21)
Friday, May 15	11:30 - 12:00	Seniors	Reyes – Yost (22)

How about graduation?

We have spent several days calling senators and representatives, members of the Illinois State Board of Education, and officials from professional education associations trying to sell the idea that schools can protect students and guests during a modified graduation ceremony with limited guests and social distancing. I'm sad to say our efforts have not yet been successful, but we are not giving up just yet.

As of the typing of this email, the overwhelming response to the graduation survey from the Senior Class and the parents of the Seniors is to delay graduation to June in hopes that a ceremony can be held. Therefore, unless the Governor provides special approval for a limited in-person graduation ceremony, Seneca High School will be rescheduling graduation to Sunday, June 7, 2020 at 2:00 PM.

Any thoughts on Prom?

We know that Prom is a big deal for our students. We are presently examining our options. We know that we cannot have Prom during the month of May because of the Governor's orders. To successfully hold a prom takes a lot of time and energy. Work actually begins about one year before the prom is held. As with graduation, we are limited by what the Governor will allow. At this time, it is actually more difficult to plan the prom than it is graduation. Again, we have not given up just yet; however, we don't have anything more to share at this time.

Graduation is likely rescheduled and Prom is canceled for the time being, what about Senior Awards Night?

We have some better news in this area. Mrs. Applebee, Mrs. Holman, Mr. Jackson, and others are working on a virtual awards night. It is in the early stages of development, but we do plan to honor our Senior awards winners. We will be able to provide more information soon. In closing, we are very proud of you. You've persevered during a very difficult time and had to bear much loss. Your future, however, is as bright as ever. Do not ever doubt your ability to meet the greatest challenges life throws at you. You are the embodiment of Irish Pride. You are Irish Strong!

Respectfully,

The Seneca High School Administration