

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

SHS Administration, Dr. Joseph Sawyer and Member of the Shrewsbury School Committee,

Collectively, as parents of a Shrewsbury High School Class of 2020 senior, we respectfully ask for your time to read our letter, and please reach out with how we can help. Our intention is not to be critical, but we are just looking for information and offering our help.

Please know that we all recognize that this is a crazy and unprecedented time in the world, and it cannot be easy to be in any position in which you have some responsibility on the decisions around so many of the students as well as school related events. In this very unusual time, we ask that you also consider an unusual way to celebrate our seniors when determining the direction that will be made for the Graduation of the SHS Class of 2020.

YES, it is a large class, and yes it will most certainly be more difficult to plan and execute something. But don't these students deserve to celebrate this major milestone? You have so many students and parents that submitted great ideas and there are parents, alumni and even community members who are willing to help support this class. PLEASE let us help!

We very much appreciate Mr. Bazydlo's email today confirming that something is being planned, as that was very reassuring, but we are asking that those tentative plans be shared now, knowing fair well that they may have to be adjusted based on what Governor Baker announces next week. We have waited patiently to hear the great ideas that were submitted and are asking you to share what is at least being discussed, as well as what is alternatively being planned if that first option is not possible. We, as parents, are offering our help to help organize and plan, or work on other alternatives, but we have no have no idea of what is even being considered.

We do have one wish - that you are NOT making plans for a VIRTUAL GRADUATION. None of us wants a virtual ceremony unless we have exhausted ALL other efforts and it's our absolute LAST resort. Consider pushing out the date to later this summer and have some type of "untraditional" ceremony" in an outside setting. Please let us help you plan something "outside the box". As parents, and as also expressed by many of our students, we feel so in the dark about what is being planned as the ending to their career at SHS. You reached out and asked us for ideas, and we are sure that many creative, yet "socially distant" ideas were submitted by both the SHS students and their parents/guardians. Now we are very anxious to hear what they are!

We are fully aware that a plan may already be made, and it will have to be changed or adjusted accordingly to comply with the state guidelines that are being rolled out. We also acknowledge and have accepted that we won't see our seniors graduate and receive their diploma's in a "traditional" graduation ceremony, but there are SO MANY other ways to celebrate these students. We are certainly not asking you to break any rules, or risk anyone's safety, but there are some amazing and very creative ideas out there that will still allow us to honor our students alongside their classmates.

Please do not "wash your hands" of this class. Let's celebrate the SHS Class of 2020 in a way they will remember always. We are here to help!!

Thank you for your time, attention and to our concerns.  
Respectfully,  
A group of Parents/Guardians of the SHS Class of 2020



Submitted and supported by:

Stephanie Ackerman (son Cole)  
Todd & Jessica Adams (daughter Samantha)  
Cindy & Vin Ambrosino (daughter Victoria)  
Stephanie Armstrong (daughter Izzy)  
Joan Beall (daughter Meghan)  
Amy Bell (sons Connor and Sean)  
Kim Bianchi (son Nick)  
Marybeth Bis (daughter Meghan)  
Kathleen Bodyk (daughter Erin)  
Marianne Boudreau (son Cameron)  
Diana Campos (son Hayden)  
Laurie Canavan (daughter Anabelle)  
Amy Clifford (daughter Abigail)  
Stacey Conant (son Brendan)  
Janet Constantine (son Ryan and daughter Gabrielle)  
Shawn Cooksey (daughter Sierra)  
Mary Creamer (daughter Julia)  
Robin DePina (daughter Olivia)  
Manoo Desai (son Nikesh)  
Tejal Doshi (son Sohil)  
Janet Durant (son Logan)  
Tom & Jane Erickson (daughter Stephanie)  
Jackie Fashjian (daughter Hayley)  
Martha Gannon (daughter Megan German)  
Lisa Girouard (daughter Ashley)  
Joy & Steve Harnois (son Jack)  
Tracey Hester (daughter Kelly)  
Amanda & Jeff Huard (daughter Jordan)  
Sonya Jason (daughter Jalycianna Horton)  
Kathleen Keohane (son Connor and daughter Colleen)  
Cindy & Bob Kerekon (son Andrew)  
Valerie Lembo (daughter Madison)  
Jodie & Jeff Lenti (daughter Ashleen)  
Jan Lineman (daughter Amanda)  
Kim & Allan Lipka (daughter Skyler)

Lisa & George Maniatis (son Stavros)  
Tanya Marderosian (son Alec)  
Kristen Maynard (daughter Alex)  
Kathleen McGonagle (son Ryan Bouffard)  
Adele McKane (sons Kevin, Glen & Drew)  
Tamzen & Ken McKenzie (daughter Celeste)  
Megan & Tim McManus (son Sam)  
Rob & Joy Messick (son Andrew)  
Lisa Morgera (son Thomas)  
Megan Muratore (daughter Rachel)  
Jessica O'Connor (daughter Michaela)  
Claudine O'Hara (daughter Gracie)  
Michelle O'Leary (daughter Teagan)  
Robert & Alyse Oliver (daughter Rachel)  
Heidi Hayes-Pandey (daughter Syra)  
Julianne Peris (daughter Ella)  
Jasmine Sahney (daughter Tara Bhasin)  
Emil Salman (son Elias)  
Caren & Craig Sande (son Matt)  
Janet Sargent (son Andrew Anderson)  
Gail & Dan Searbo (son Matt)  
Maribeth Sciplini (daughter Isabella)  
Shannon Nadeau-Semanki (daughter Lauren Semanski)  
Jeffrey Sossa-Paquette (daughter Ashley Weeks-Paquette)  
Wendy & Ken Sposato (daughter Anna)  
Pamela Szal (daughter Sophia)  
Komal Tanna (daughter Anjali)  
Fred Troy (daughter Jenna)  
Michelle Troy (daughter Jenna)  
Paula & Keith Vreeland (son Jacob)  
Angela Welch (son Kevin)  
Elizabeth Welch (daughter Megan)  
Alise Wells (daughter Ava)  
Christine Williams (daughter Layne)