

Graduation 2020 Safety Protocols

The safety of our graduates and their families is at the forefront of our planning for graduation during this unprecedented year. It is important that graduates and guests follow the safety protocols in place in order to provide the safest possible event.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Attendance is limited to ONLY graduates and those with TICKETS for admission. Those with symptoms of illness or exposure to someone with a diagnosed case of COVID-19 should not attend.

Arrival

- Doors will open at Dalzell Field 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the ceremony (9:30 a.m. for Hempstead and 2:30 p.m. for Dubuque Senior).
- Graduates and guests are asked to not arrive before the doors open.
 - Graduates and guests **will NOT** be allowed to congregate in parking lots, outside Dalzell Field, or in the stadium.
- Graduates should enter Dalzell Field through the South Entrance near the locker rooms.
- Guests may enter Dalzell Field through the East, West and Visitor Gates, while observing social distancing guidelines.
 - Upon arrival, graduates will be ushered directly to their seat on the field and guests will be asked to proceed directly to a set of four available seats.

Seating

- Seating will be available in the home and visitor sections, as well as on the field level.
- Ushers will be available to assist families with seating.
- Guests of a graduate are expected to sit together in the same four-seat section.
- Please notify an usher if you need accessible seating.
- Guests will be asked to remain in their seats during the ceremony.

Diploma Presentation

- During the ceremony, graduates will cross the stage in normal graduation fashion.
- Given the extremely low risk of transmission of COVID-19 on material contact, diplomas will be handed to the graduate.
- School staff handling diplomas will all wear gloves.
- NO hugs or handshakes will be given on the stage.

Dismissal

- At the conclusion of the ceremony, graduates will process out of Dalzell Field in a socially distanced manner.
- Guests will be asked to remain in the stadium until the procession concludes and will then be released by section.
- Graduates and guests **will NOT** be allowed to congregate in the stadium, outside Dalzell Field or in parking lots.

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Attire

- Graduates should plan to wear their caps and gowns.
- Sensible shoes are recommended, especially for graduates, as the field's turf surface can be more difficult to walk on with heels.
- Remember that it can be hot in late June, and even hotter at the field level due to the turf.
- Please dress according to the weather conditions in order to reduce sun exposure and remain cool.

Cleaning

- Restrooms will be sanitized and cleaned before each ceremony.
- High touch surfaces and seating areas will also be sanitized before each ceremony.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located throughout the stadium.

Drinking Water

- Water fountains will NOT be available during the event.
- Graduates and guests are encouraged to bring their own water.

First Aid

- A first aid station will be located near the team rooms at Dalzell Field.

Live Broadcast

- The graduation ceremony will be live streamed to allow for those unable to attend to watch the ceremony.
- The live stream may be accessed via the district homepage (www.dbqschools.org) or the district's official social media channels (www.facebook.com/dbqschools and www.twitter.com/dbqschools).

Masks

- Graduates and guests are encouraged to wear masks.
- Graduates wearing masks may choose to remove them prior to receiving their diploma.

Parking

- Parking will be available in the Dubuque Senior High School Parking Lot, with overflow parking available in Clarke University Parking Lots courtesy of the university.

Photography

- Guests **WILL NOT** be allowed to move to the stage to take photos.
- Each graduate will receive a high-resolution, printable professional photo at NO COST to the student.
 - Information on how to access photos will be forthcoming.

Restrooms

- Restrooms will be open for use during the ceremony.

NOTE: These safety protocols, or other event details, are subject to change based on any changes in the COVID-19 situation.