



May 22, 2020

Dear Seahawk Families:

I hope that this finds you beginning to enjoy the Memorial Day Holiday. Included this week is information about concluding school this spring and then beginning in the fall. Registration for classes is really important to help us plan for a successful launch in the fall. Also please find information regarding seniors and graduation..

We also encourage students to continue learning, to engage their teachers in the new essential learnings that are available weekly for students. Though the grading policy is already established, students who want to do so may increase grades by working directly with their teachers on tasks that are designed to demonstrate understanding. It is possible to turn Bs in to As, for example.

Anyway, we want to be of service to you and all members of our community. Should you need something, please do ask.

Sincerely,  
Joe Potts, Ph.D.  
Principal

### **Senior Scholarships: Thank You!**

What a dazzling and awesome display of academic ability and community support! More than 160 senior students received over \$300,000 worth of scholarships to assist with post-secondary educational opportunities. The number of scholarships combined with the tremendous response from community members— demonstrates without question a high level of support for students in the Peninsula High School Community. Many, many thanks.

### **Registration**

Registration for classes is really important to help us plan for a successful launch of school in the fall. If your student has not registered for classes, there is still time to do so. Please contact your student's counselor as soon as possible.

**Copeland (A-C); Ho (D-Hn); Lichau (Ho-Mi); Hughes (Mo-Se); Cooper (Sh-Z).**

### **Senior Chromebooks**

Seniors will be able again this year to purchase their Chromebooks for \$10.00. This is a deal. A system is currently being worked out to ensure that seniors or their parents can go on-line and pay for the device. We will send out that information in the near future. That said, we will select a day in June for those seniors who do not wish to keep their Chromebooks to return them to PHS.

### **Senior Parade and Graduation**

Right now, seniors will be recognized in a number of ways. Also, the **PHS Graduate Car Parade** is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 10:00 am at the Tacoma Narrows Airport. **The PHS Class of 2020 Graduation Ceremony** is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 11:00 am at Roy Anderson Field. (See letter sent at the end of this newsletter.)

**Cap and gown pick up** as well as yard signs are still available here at PHS. Please contact us if you would like to come in to get your cap and gown and yard sign. We are happy to help you. Please call 253.514.0397 and leave a message and we will arrange a time and date for pick up.

### **ASB Elections**

ASB Elections are next week! Please encourage your students to check Schoology to vote for ASB Officers for the 2020-2021 school year. Online voting will be live on May 29th 9am-5pm. Good luck to all candidates.

### **Material Item Pick Up in June**

As we begin to wrap up the school year, we will be scheduling times for students to come to school and pick up items left in lockers or other spaces in the school. When and how this occurs depends on guidance from Governor Inslee. We are currently, however, actively developing a process that will allow for pick up and still maintain social distancing and other safety precautions.

### **What Will School Look Like in the Fall?**

District leadership is working now on plans to reopen school in the fall. Last week, we began by gathering feedback from grade-level administrators to develop guiding principles to assist in the planning. A comprehensive reopening plan, accounting for all contingencies, will be brought before the board on June 11.

An advisory team with representatives from every corner of the district has begun to oversee this work. Shortly, workgroups will convene to put together a detailed reopening plan for the fall of 2020 to take back to the advisory team to review. More information about the advisory team and associated workgroups on this topic will be forthcoming.

### **Stay Strong PSD - Virtual Art Exhibition**

PSD is inviting all students to use creative expression and show what it means to Stay Strong PSD with our virtual art exhibition. Students may choose any medium for their artistic expression, including poetry, music, painting, 3D creation, photography, baking, woodworking, and more. Digital submissions are due by June 12, and we will share all entries virtually with our PSD community. For more information and to submit your work, go to [psd401.net/staystrong](https://psd401.net/staystrong). Outstanding Entries will be featured on social media in the last week of school.

### ***Letter Sent to Seniors and Their Parents***

## **Graduation Ceremony Information**

May 22, 2020

Dear PHS Seniors and Families,

We are happy to share some extremely exciting news for our graduates and families. We have confirmed guidance from the State on the "Safe Start" plan and we are pleased to announce we will host an in-person Graduation Ceremony for the graduating Class of 2020!

### **Graduation Ceremony**

**The PHS Class of 2020 Graduation Ceremony** is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 11:00 am at Roy Anderson Field. We understand this date may not be ideal for all but hopefully arrangements can be made for the majority of our class to attend. In order to have the in-person ceremony, the State must be in Phase 4 of the Safe Start plan.

\* Additionally, we are taking safety steps by hosting the ceremony outside and practicing social distancing as much as possible. Seniors will sit 6 feet apart in chairs on the turf field, facing the grandstand and will proceed in and out

of the ceremony at safe distances. Given the size of our graduating class however, there is not enough room for students to have guests attend the ceremony. Alternatively, the ceremony will be live streamed for all to watch safely from home as their graduate walks across the stage, hears their name, receives their diploma and enjoys their well-deserved moment!

*\*If the State has yet to enter Phase 4 of Safe Start by the date of the ceremony, the in-person ceremony will be cancelled, and a Virtual Graduation Ceremony video will be presented on July 25, 2020 at 12:00 pm. The Live Stream and Virtual ceremonies will be available for viewing at [psd401.net/graduation](https://psd401.net/graduation) if you would like to share this information with family and friends.*

## **Car Parade**

Also, the **PHS Graduate Car Parade** is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 10:00 am at the Tacoma Narrows Airport. This event will mark the actual day your senior has looked forward to all year and allows parents and guests to cheer on their graduate in person. Parents and guests will line a parade route at the airport in their vehicles and cheer on the graduates as they parade by in decorated vehicles. Students are encouraged to wear their cap and gown and decorate their vehicle for the parade. All students and guests must remain in or with their vehicles before, during and after the parade. If your senior is in need of a ride for the parade, please contact Wendy Wojtanowicz, 253-549-9007. The safety and the well-being of students and families will continue to be of utmost concern. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

## **Senior Pictures in Cap and Gowns for Virtual Ceremony**

Now that seniors have their caps and gowns, we need to collect graduate pictures to include in the Virtual Graduation Ceremony video. Photos can be taken one of two ways:

1. **Submit your own photo:** Seniors can submit their own photo taken at home with a camera or phone. To submit your own photo, please take a **horizontal** picture of your senior and submit it to <https://www.dropbox.com/request/kRp7peVf2GSxX6oIRLon> no later than June 10. Seniors should be in both cap and gown for the picture but they can be pictured in whatever setting they wish (standing with a plain background, by their car, horse, or any hobby/pet they wish to share) as long as the picture is taken horizontal and the senior is the main subject in the picture. Please include your senior's first and last name when you send in your photo.
2. **Professional Photo at School:** If you would like a professional picture taken of your student in their cap and gown, photos will be taken free of charge by volunteer photographer Stacy Gendreau - Lauren Oliver Photography on Saturday, June 6th in the PHS bus turn around area. Please sign up for a time if you wish to have a photo taken: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45ADA82DA7FC1-senior>. Seniors are asked to arrive at PHS in their cap and gown 5 minutes before their assigned time and stay in their vehicle until directed to come to the picture area. Family photos can also be taken at this time following the same guidelines - please arrive in one vehicle. Photos will be provided to the school for inclusion in the Virtual Ceremony and posted to a PUBLIC site to view, download and print. Please be aware, these photos will be viewable by all.

## **Senior Video and Top 10**

Look for a video coming next week with an exciting announcement about graduation events, graduation speakers, and Top 10 Honor Students of the Class of 2020! Student and staff graduation speakers were voted on by the Class of 2020. Regarding the top 10 Honor Students (*as noted in the course catalog*), Peninsula High

School will determine the top ten order of graduates by grade point average with additional weight given to Advanced Placement classes. Specifically, the number of Advanced Placement classes a student takes will be multiplied by a constant of  $1/24$ , thus giving these classes more weight in a student's grade point average than traditional classes. See the course catalog for more information. The Top 10 Students have already been notified.

Thank you all for your patience as we navigate the perimeters of graduation event possibilities. We are so pleased to be able to offer these celebrations for the Class of 2020.

Sincerely,

Joe

Joe Potts, Ph.D.  
Principal