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May 1, 2020

Dear Class of 2020,

The last four years have been filled with many events, activities, emotions, and memories during your time at Lampeter-Strasburg High School. We know that the COVID-19 global pandemic has taken away many opportunities and experiences for you that no one could have anticipated in your senior year, including spring sports, senior class trip, and prom, to name a few. We feel deeply for each of you knowing that this has been a tumultuous end to your high school experience. We are very committed, though, to make the conclusion of your senior year at Lampeter-Strasburg High School one that is memorable and will help bring the necessary closure to your successful high school experience. Hence, we are working diligently to provide you with a multitude of end of senior year events to help commemorate and culminate your high school experience at Lampeter-Strasburg.

As you know the Class of 2020 has purchased yard signs for every senior that we hope you proudly display outside your home through graduation. Next Friday, May 8, 2020, an L-S staff member will be riding your school bus to personally deliver your yard sign and cap/gown to your home. We hope that each senior will be home that day and will come out to have their picture taken with their sign for a presentation to be created at a later date. The L-S staff are truly excited to take part in this event, as well as your bus drivers as they are excited to see you. We will share more information next week regarding the specifics for delivery and a timeframe for the drop-off.

The first event we have planned for you this spring is our Annual Senior Awards Ceremony, where over one hundred monetary awards will be issued to deserving seniors. This year, the event will be broadcasted through the school's YouTube channel (district website) on the scheduled date of Thursday May 14, 2020 at 7:00PM. We hope that you will join us online that evening to celebrate our award-winning seniors.

The second event to share will be our Annual Baccalaureate Ceremony. This event will also be held virtually and streamed through the local ministerium's YouTube channel on the originally scheduled date of Wednesday May 27, 2020 at 7:00PM. We invite all interested seniors and their families to view the virtual Baccalaureate Ceremony online that evening. The YouTube Channel link will be posted on the District website and shared via social media.

The third event that we are excited to share with you is a special graduation parade that we are planning throughout the district during the final week of school. We are working very diligently with local law enforcement and the local fire departments to make the necessary plans to celebrate the Class of 2020 throughout the L-S community. We will continue to plan for this event and share the details as they are finalized with all departments.

The final event that we would like to provide you with information about is this year's high school graduation, as much as we would love to hold our formal graduation ceremony in May, this year it is just not possible due to the pandemic. But our collective Class of 2020 Task Force, which includes student leaders, teachers, and administrators, has worked and will continue to work very hard to make this a memorable experience for the L-S Class of 2020. The graduation activities scheduled for May 29, 2020 will include a "Drive-Thru" event (school campus) for seniors to receive their diploma, as well as have a photo opportunity for the graduate and their family, and a drive through memory lane. This event will also be partnered with an online digital component where seniors and their families will hear music, student speeches, staff remarks, and the naming of the Class of 2020 Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Third in Class Awards. The Class of 2020 Task Force is committed to continue to make finalized plans for these events and will work tirelessly to make this memorable for every one of you.

We also remain committed as a school district to plan a second graduation event for later in the summer (Late July/Early August) that will also seek to recognize the Class of 2020, as was shared in the recent survey. Unfortunately, at this time I do not have any definitive information to share regarding that potential event, given the many unknowns regarding the guidelines from the CDC, PA Department of Health, and Local Health Officials at that time. However, more information will be communicated in the summer when updated safety guidelines and restrictions have been communicated regarding the timeframe of the July/August event. We hope to plan a few more special opportunities and/or mementos for the L-S Class of 2020, as we know this has been a challenging time for each of you, but please remember...We are all in this together! WE ARE L-S!

Stay safe and healthy,



Benjamin J. Feeney, Ed.D.
Principal

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