

Respect

Achievement

Citizenship

Karen J. Cahill
Principal, ext. 5503

The seal of the Town of Milton, Massachusetts, is circular and red. It features a central figure holding a scale and a sword, surrounded by the text "TOWN OF MILTON" at the top and "INCORPORATED 1640" at the bottom. The seal is partially overlaid by the school's name and address.
MILTON HIGH SCHOOL
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Milton, MA 02186 617-696-4470

Benjamin J. Kelly
Vice Principal, ext. 5504

Brian E. Mackinaw
Vice Principal, ext. 5507

April 26, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Seniors!

I am pleased to announce that Milton High School is moving forward with plans for an in-person graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 6th at 2:00pm on Brooks Field. After reviewing the guidance for commencement ceremonies, I want to highlight some important information for students and families:

- Milton High School is committed to making its graduation ceremony an outdoor event. As such, we are asking families to save the date of Saturday, June 5th as a potential rain date.
- Students will be able to invite a limited number of guests. We will inform students and families about the number of guests each senior may invite after we make socially-distanced staging and seating arrangements. For those that cannot attend, a live stream will be provided.
- Based on state guidance, guests will be required to register in advance of the event, and only pre-registered guests may attend.
- Because the guidance states that "ceremonies should be kept as brief as possible," there will be some changes made to the traditional sequence of graduation activities.
- We will be organizing a caravan parade through Milton following graduation. Students are encouraged to decorate their vehicles. Parade routes will be shared with the Milton community, so that they can come out and support the Class of 2021, once we have confirmed with local authorities.

As for other end of year events, MHS administrators are discussing senior award ceremonies and other June events with our Senior Class Advisor, Student Government and PTO. Listed below are events that are scheduled for the week leading up to graduation:

- Senior Awards is scheduled for Tuesday, June 1st in the MHS Auditorium with a live stream available for family and friends.
- We are working with senior parents/guardians to coordinate a field day and picnic on Tuesday, June 1st. More details to follow as these logistics are still being finalized.
- Friday, June 4th, seniors will be treated to a drive thru breakfast at Steel and Rye. Students can pick up their yearbooks at MHS and then head to breakfast at Steel and Rye.

Since the Milton Public Schools is not hosting a prom this year following DESE guidance, we are hosting the events listed above to allow our seniors a time to gather safely and celebrate with their classmates.

[On Thursday, April 1, DESE posted [guidance on high school proms](#) . Given the health risks inherent in holding a prom during the COVID-19 pandemic, [DESE strongly recommends that schools do not have proms and instead substitute alternative celebrations for seniors](#). If schools do choose to hold proms, it is strongly recommended that they delay the prom until after the end of the school year, ideally delaying until such time when most students attending prom will have been vaccinated. If schools do hold proms, they must follow the [State Event Guidance](#) and the [State Travel Advisory](#).

Prom is an inherently high-risk activity, as it is a social gathering that involves dancing and singing (both of which are activities with increased respiration), and also presents concerning opportunities for students to break health and safety protocols in a relaxed environment. Therefore, after consultation with our medical advisors, DESE strongly recommends that schools do not have proms and instead substitute alternative celebrations for seniors.

Milton High School Administration does NOT condone the student coordinated scavenger hunt or “Senior Drive By”. On the contrary, we encourage our students to have fun in a safe manner that does not involve loitering, destroying, tampering with or taking other people’s property. The scavenger hunt is not an activity that is endorsed by the high school administration. Students are constantly reminded to be safe, have fun and to be good citizens in the community as well.

The last day for seniors is Friday, May 28th with classes ending on the 28th with no formal final exams. Seniors will be required to attend graduation practices the week of June 1st with days and times to be announced in the coming weeks.

More information on graduation and other senior events will be sent out as we get closer to the dates and logistics for each event are confirmed.

We look forward to seeing you at these events and celebrating all that you have accomplished in your 4 years at Milton High!

Sincerely,



Karen J Cahill
Principal
Milton High School

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