

Dear *Class of 2020* Students and Families,

First of all, we miss you! We realize that this situation is not at all what you expected for your senior year. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication over the years. You have handled this new situation with class and determination. As we shifted to a new learning experience, you rose to the challenge. As you are aware, Governor Gregg Abbott has extended the school closure through the end of the school year for all Texas schools. As a result, the District is having to make adjustments to the traditional end of year senior events. While we wish we were not having to make these adjustments, please know that we are doing everything we can to celebrate the *Class of 2020* in ways that make this time special for our seniors and their families.

In collaboration with the District and high school administration team, the decision has been made to modify the following events: *Academic Awards Ceremony and Commencement*. As we progress through these unprecedented times, we will continue to put the students first and are dedicated to giving the *Class of 2020* the end of year experiences they so deserve and have earned. We are currently seeking out options on recognizing our Academic Awards recipients. Commencement, the memorable moment for students and families, is another event we are working diligently to make happen. We are currently working on ways to celebrate our seniors which consist of the following:

- Virtual Graduation which will include students, principal and superintendent speeches
- Working with local TV and radio stations on broadcasting our graduates
- Light up Ratliff Stadium on graduation nights in honor of our 2020 graduates
- Seeking out alternative dates to allow our students to have a traditional graduation and officially “walk the stage”
- Purchasing yard signs for each graduate

As a district, we are committed to our students and the community. As we progress through this situation, we will continue to provide updates and answer questions and concerns as they arise. We are vested in the tradition and relationships and with your continuous support, flexibility, and patience, we will all move forward through these challenging times to create memorable moments for the *Class of 2020*.

Stay Safe and Stay Strong! We are proud of you!