To: Graduates of the Class of 2020, Parents & Guardians  
From: James V. Fisher, Principal  
Date: June 8, 2020  

Re: COMMENCEMENT ACTIVITIES – SUNDAY JUNE 28, 2020

While we all faced many, unanticipated, unprecedented challenges as the 2019-2020 school year came to a close, it is our sincere hope to provide our very deserving members of the Senior class a memorable commencement experience that is also compliant with the guidelines established by the New York State Department of Health. A committee has worked diligently to plan for the following activities in celebration of the North Tonawanda High School Class of 2020 graduates.

Drive-Through Diploma Conferral – Sunday, June 28th 8:30 AM-11:30 AM

Graduates and members of their immediate families are invited to drive to the NTHS campus where they will receive their diplomas. Graduates are expected to wear their caps, gowns, top ten medals, and honor cords. Graduates and their immediate families are required to ride together, in one vehicle. Please feel free to decorate your vehicle with school colors to help add to our celebration! Vehicles will enter the High School campus at our main entrance on Meadow Drive, proceed to the right following the science wing roadway, and continue on toward the concession stand plaza near our new athletic stadium, where diplomas will be presented. Please refer to the campus map that is attached and plan your arrival consistent with the following schedule. Students are scheduled during a specific time frame based upon the first letter of their last name.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Arrival Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 AM – 8:45 AM</td>
<td>A-C</td>
<td>9:50 AM - 10:05 AM</td>
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<td>8:50 AM - 9:05 AM</td>
<td>D-F</td>
<td>10:15 AM - 10:30 AM</td>
<td>N-R</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 AM - 9:25 AM</td>
<td>G-I</td>
<td>10:35 AM - 10:50 AM</td>
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The drive-through venue will be decorated in school colors to enhance our celebration of the graduates and Pomp and Circumstance will be playing as they make their way across the stage. We are hoping for great weather, but this will be a rain or shine event.

When your vehicle reaches the balloon arch, graduates only will exit their vehicle (graduates do NOT need to wear a mask) and walk up on the stage to receive their diploma cover. All other occupants of the vehicle must remain in the vehicle. Pictures may be taken from within your vehicle, please be prepared in advance to help us maintain a steady flow of graduates. We have also arranged for photographers to be on site to take formal pictures of each graduate. After leaving the stage, graduates will be directed to a photo opportunity area where there will be a custom designed backdrop. After their photo shoot, graduates will be presented with an envelope that contains their actual diploma and information about obtaining copies of their formal pictures. Graduates will then be required to sign for
receipt of their diploma, re-enter their vehicle, and proceed on the roadway back toward Meadow Drive.

**Virtual NTHS 2020 Commencement Ceremony**

After our graduates have received their diplomas on campus and returned home, we will premier our prerecorded Virtual NTHS 2020 Commencement Ceremony video. The video will premiere at 1:00 PM, Sunday June 28th. The virtual ceremony will include most of the traditional elements of our commencement exercise including speeches delivered by administrators, a keynote faculty member, and the Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Honor Pin, Service Learning Award, and Military Enlisted graduates will be recognized during the virtual ceremony. There will also be traditional music and prerecorded musical performances. Of course, a photo of each individual graduate will be prominently featured during the virtual procession. The ceremony will conclude with a proclamation of graduation and the “turning of tassels”.

To ensure access, the virtual ceremony will be available for your viewing on multiple online platforms. We anticipate having the video posted on Facebook Live, YouTube, and Vimeo. Please visit the North Tonawanda City Schools website https://www.ntschools.org on June 28th to access the actual links to the multiple video platforms. After the video premieres at 1:00 PM it will remain available so you can replay it at a later date or share the video link with other family members.

We are pleased to be able to afford our Class of 2020 graduates, who have worked so hard to earn this celebration, a unique commencement experience. It will be both memorable and historic.

JVF:jvf