



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SUPERINTENDENT

Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.

April 27, 2020

A Message from Superintendent Nelson-----

Nearly every aspect of life has changed as a result of COVID-19—forcing students, families and district staff to make work and life adjustments in real time. This is also true as we look to celebrate our seniors and provide students with summer learning experiences. Our staff is still finalizing details, but I am pleased to share that we are moving forward in celebrating our seniors and conducting summer learning in a virtual format. Thank you for your support and patience as we all step up to support one another during this unique and challenging time.

Class of 2020

- Plans are underway for a **virtual senior celebration** that will include recognizing all seniors, student/staff videos, messages from our board, superintendent, principal, certification of graduates, and turning of the tassel. The virtual celebration will be broadcast on local television, the district website and also available for download. Details on the days/times will be finalized and communicated by May 15.
- To celebrate their achievement, our seniors will receive a **special recognition package**.
- Once our shelter in place is lifted and it's safe to gather and celebrate, we still plan to hold a **physical graduation**.
- **School regalia** and keepsakes will be used during our physical graduation ceremonies so high schools aren't cancelling or refunding purchases for school regalia at this time. Students still needing to order regalia to keep, may do so on the site vendor website (gradservicesltd.com or Jostens.com).
- **Join us in celebrating our seniors!** In the coming weeks, as we launch our season of celebration, graphics and flyers will be available to share and post to honor this year's special class of graduates.
- **Senior grades will be finalized on May 22, 2020** (Design Science on May 15, 2020).
- **Senior check-out will follow May 26-29** (May 19 for Design Science). Seniors will need to turn in textbooks and library books, return borrowed technology, uniforms, music instruments, and club fundraising materials. The process will take about an hour and we will practice social distancing.

Summer Learning

Plans are moving forward to provide learning opportunities for ALL of our students this summer in a distance learning format. Detailed information about this summer's learning programs, including how students will register for classes, will be communicated in early May. Parents and students

will be notified through our normal district communication tools including letters, emails, SchoolMessenger calls and texts, ATLAS and counselor outreach.

Thank you again for all you are doing to ensure your students remain engaged and connected with teachers and staff. We miss our more than 74,000 students and while we aren't together collectively on campus, Fresno Unified remains focused on supporting our students and their families in this new world of distance learning. Together we will get through this and come out stronger on the other side.