



# SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CISD

May 28, 2020

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY GUIDELINES

On May 5, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott released guidance to school districts and colleges across the state pertaining to graduation ceremonies. Pursuant to Executive Order GA-23 and the recommendations of the Governor’s Strike Force to Open Texas, schools may conduct graduation ceremonies consistent with the minimum standard health protocols issued by the Texas Education Agency beginning June 1, 2020. While it is important to adhere to the guidelines outlined by the Governor, it is equally important to comply with ordinances established by our local government. To this end, our graduation plans have been reviewed and approved by our County Judge and Mayor. Our sincere appreciation is extended for their guidance and support.

San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District has opted to conduct the 2020 Commencement Exercises outdoors in the following manner:

- Two ceremonies per day (9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.) beginning on June 4, June 5, and June 6 at Walter Levermann Stadium located at 100 Memorial Drive, Del Rio, Texas.
- Each Graduation Ceremony will be limited to 100-seat occupancy (i.e., 2 guests per graduate).

<b>SFDR CISD Graduation Ceremony Assignments</b>	
<b><i>Thursday, June 4, 2020 (9:00 a.m.)</i></b>	<b><i>Thursday, June 4, 2020 (8:00 p.m.)</i></b>
Class President DRHS Top 20 ECHS Top 9 Graduates with Accessibility/Handicapping Needs Graduates with last name Abrego - Cedillo	Graduates with last name Chapa – Garcia, A.
<b><i>Friday, June 5, 2020 (9:00 a.m.)</i></b>	<b><i>Friday, June 5, 2020 (8:00 p.m.)</i></b>
Graduates with last name Garcia, B. – Lozano, C.	Graduates with last name Lozano, N. – Quintero, A.
<b><i>Saturday, June 6, 2020 (9:00 a.m.)</i></b>	<b><i>Saturday, June 6, 2020 (8:00 p.m.)</i></b>
Graduates with last name Quiroz, A. – Torres, Al	Graduates with last name Torres, Ar –Zuniga, D.

- Prior to attending the ceremony, participating students and attending family members will be screened (via questioning) by school system employees for any new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19.
- Seniors and their guests will be encouraged, not required, to wear a face covering.
- In order to meet social distancing guidelines, guests will be assigned parking and will be called upon to enter the stadium. Guests will be ushered to their assigned seating area 6 feet apart from the next family.
- Social distancing measures will take place to usher Seniors onto the field and when they receive their diploma.
- All ceremonies will be streamed live on the SFDR public access television channel, the school district's website and social media channels.
- A photographer will also be on hand to take pictures of each graduating senior.
- Using the same social distancing measures, graduates and parents will be ushered out of the stadium at the end of the commencement ceremonies to their vehicles.
- Graduates and their families will not be permitted to congregate after the ceremony. Families will be encouraged to take pictures at home before and after the ceremony.

Graduates and their parents are urged to follow the detailed instructions included in this letter. The following information outlines the established protocols for the postponement of graduation ceremonies in the event of inclement weather, senior clearance, guest tickets, ceremony guidelines, arrival and dismissal to and from Walter D. Levermann Stadium, dress code, prohibited items, and safety protocols. The attached maps also help indicate where guests/parents will be parking and sitting. Designated parking areas will be reserved for graduates with handicapping conditions for accessibility to the ceremony (not located on the map). For information on these designated parking areas, please call the high school's main office at (830) 778-4300.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

In the event of inclement weather, the graduation ceremonies will be postponed to the week of June 11-13. Graduates and their parents are urged to follow the same instructions provided on this letter.

## **SENIOR CLEARANCE**

Del Rio High School, Early College High School and Blended Academy are conducting final clearance for high school seniors this week in preparation for the upcoming graduation ceremonies which will take place on June 4<sup>th</sup> thru June 6<sup>th</sup> at Walter D. Levermann Stadium. In order to participate in graduation ceremonies, seniors must complete the following: 1) clear all required credits with their counselor via phone conference, 2) pay outstanding cafeteria charges with the food service manager, 3) return all school items

borrowed from the library and various clubs/organizations, and 4) liquidate any pending fees, fundraisers, and fines with the respective sponsors.

## **SENIOR'S GUEST TICKETS**

Seniors who have been cleared for graduation will be permitted to pick up two guest tickets at the DRHS student parking lot between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. The tickets will indicate the date and time of the graduate's assigned commencement ceremony. Each ticket will also indicate the number of the reserved parking space and seat assignments for the graduate's guests. A map of the parking lot and stadium seat assignments are attached for convenience and reference. District personnel will be on hand to help guests find their parking space and stadium seats.

## **ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL**

Senior and guests are urged to arrive at the Walter D. Levermann Stadium at least 30 minutes before the start of the assigned ceremony to allow for ample time to find your designated parking space(s). Upon arrival, both seniors and guests will be asked to wait in their vehicle until they are prompted to exit their vehicle, and ushered to the line waiting on the sidewalk next to the Carl Guys Gymnasium. Graduates will be placed in numerical order, and will be ushered by school personnel to the stadium before and after the ceremony. At the conclusion of the ceremony, graduates will be ushered out of the stadium first. Parents will be asked to remain seated until the graduates have exited the field. Parents will then be dismissed in rows and sections by the master/mistress of ceremony. Local authorities and school district police will be on hand to assist and usher parents and guests to their parked vehicle. As a safety precaution, graduates and their families will not be permitted to congregate with others after the ceremony.

## **DRESS CODE**

Arrive at the stadium dressed in the approved (royal blue) DRHS cap and gown. The tassel is worn on the right side of the cap before the ceremony. Only the traditional stoles for the national honor societies will be allowed to be worn. These will be placed on your assigned seat. Place them over your gown as soon as you arrive. After the ceremony, remove the stole and place it back on the seat for proper storage by a school official.

Dress for young ladies: Dresses, dress pants are wedge or flat shoes are permitted. See prohibited items.

Dress for young men: Dress slacks, dress shirt, tie, and dress shoes or non-steel toed boots are permitted.

Facial hair shall be groomed and neat. See prohibited items.

## **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

High heels, spikes, steel-toed boots, flip flops, or other shoes that may cause tripping on a grass or track field; shorts, t-shirts, rompers, jeans, tennis shoes, noise makers/confetti poppers; beach balls or

sports/recreational spheres of any kind; sunglasses; food/drink; banners/signs; cell phones (must be off or in silent mode).

## **RECEIVING YOUR DIPLOMA**

When the time comes to receive the diploma, seniors will be directed to the center stage by a school official. Graduates must stand in line six (6) feet apart from the person in front of them. Graduates will walk across the stage to the table as their name is called. Graduates will take and collect their diploma from the table, then turn around for a picture. After the picture is taken, students must walk back promptly to his/her assigned seat.

## **SAFETY**

Safety masks and gloves are highly recommended for graduates. Seniors will not need to carry any other items onto the field. Measures have been taken to remain at least six (6) feet apart between the parking lot and the stadium, and a protracted eight (8) feet between chairs on the field. Graduates may not, under any circumstances, congregate on the field after the ceremony. Graduates will promptly be ushered back to their cars by school personnel via the sidewalk next to the Carl Guys Gymnasium. During the course of the ceremony, restrooms will be open to guests. Social distancing measures shall be enforced during the use of these facilities at all times. Concession stands will not available during graduation ceremonies.

*SFDRCSISD Student Code of Conduct Rules and Government Ordinances will be enforced. Enjoy your time of honor and be responsible. If there are any discipline issues, you may be asked to leave the ceremony. Confiscated items will be returned by school administrators after parent contact is made.*