

May 25, 2021

Dear JBS Families,

As promised, we are going to send a series of emails regarding upcoming events for you and your seniors. They will serve as reminders and include updates, as necessary.

Given recent CDC and St. Louis County Public Health Department messaging, we hope many people are a little more comfortable about public gatherings ... but we know not everyone is. We're encouraged that more and more people have been vaccinated ... but we know not everyone is. So we continue to make our plans with the goal of having events as traditional as possible while taking care of each other.

This note begins by reviewing details about Senior Assembly (May 27) followed by information about the class picnic dinner (June 3) and graduation ceremony and dinner (June 6). [If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask](#) ... if we don't have the answers, we'll track them down.

Here we go!

SENIOR ASSEMBLY

For the Class of 2021 & Their Parents

8:45 am, Thursday, May 27

JBS Quadrangle

Dress: Seniors usually dress up for this assembly. There's no dress code for parents!

Parking: Students usually park in the Clayton Road lot, and parents may park wherever they want. If needed, we will open the Abbotts' front yard, accessed off the NE corner of the Schnuck lot.

Safety Protocols: Health screening will be on the honor system. We ask that everyone wear a mask and socially distance to the extent possible.

Seating: We have installed a large tent in the Quad so that we can gather, rain or shine. Everyone should be seated (or find a spot to stand) by 8:40 am.

Program: The assembly focuses entirely on the seniors. It includes remarks by Katie Xu, class president; Andy Chen, a member of the faculty selected by the class; and Andy Abbott. Assembly should run about 45 minutes.

Reception: After the assembly, the Alumni Association will host a brief reception (coffee and scones), providing a time for all of you to congratulate one another!

If You Can't Make It: [Assembly will be livestreamed](#); the link will go live about 8:30 am.

PICNIC DINNER

For the Class of 2021 & Their Parents

6 pm, Thursday, June 3

JBS Quadrangle

Dress: Dress is casual.

Parking: There should be ample parking in both the Schnuck lot off Price Road (which leads right into the Quad) and the Clayton Road lot.

Safety Protocols: Health screening will be on the honor system. We ask that everyone wear a mask (except when eating and drinking) and socially distance to the extent possible.

Seating: Round tables are set up under and outside of the tent. Tables will be set for six, allowing two families at each. But there will be plenty of room to spread out so that everyone can find seating in line with their own comfort level.

Buffet Picnic: Dinner will be a served buffet, including BBQ beef, chicken kabobs, vegetables and salad, all of which are gluten free. There will be drink stations with water, lemonade and tea.

Program: After dinner, everyone is invited to Haertter Hall for some last-minute graduation reminders, a few reflections on the class and a slide show of the seniors spanning their time at JBS. Anyone who would prefer to remain outdoors may watch the program on a 90" screen in the tent. The program should run about 45 minutes.

Restrooms: The Haertter Hall restrooms (on the west end of the Quadrangle) will be available.

If You Can't Make It: We will share the slide show the following day with all seniors and senior parents.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

For the Class of 2021 & Up to Six Guests per Senior

7 pm, Sunday, June 6 ~ Seniors should be on campus no later than 5:15 pm

Graduation Grove (north of the STAR building)

Dress: Student dress is formal (white dresses, pant suits, summer tuxes). There is no dress code for family/guests but business casual is the common choice.

Parking: Students are asked to park in the Clayton Road lot. Family/guests may park wherever they want. If needed, we will open the Abbotts' front yard, accessed off the NE corner of the Schnuck lot. There will be more handicapped parking spaces in both the Clayton Road and Schnuck lots, but they are available on a first-come first-serve basis.

Safety Protocols: Health screening will be on the honor system. We ask that everyone wear a mask. Our assigned seating set-up for family provides for social distancing. Seniors may choose not to wear a mask during the processional, when they receive their individual diploma and/or when they recess.

Seating: The seniors sit on the outdoor stage, facing south. Family/guests sit in family/guest bundles of six, socially distanced, on a sloping hill facing the kids. Seating placement is determined by lottery (but there really are no bad seats!). There is limited space for wheelchairs; please let us know immediately if you need this accommodation. Everyone should be in their seats by 6:50 pm. Seat assignments will be emailed to you closer to graduation.

Ceremony: The program begins after the faculty and seniors' processional. It will include remarks by two students (selected from anonymous submissions to a panel of seniors and faculty) and Andy Abbott. Andy will hand out the diplomas. The Metro Winds, including our own Robert Carter (music), will perform traditional music during the processional and recessional. The ceremony should run about 75+ minutes.

If There Are Family/Friends Who Can't Attend Because of Our Limit: [The ceremony will be livestreamed](#); the link will go live about 6:45 pm.

There is no formal reception, but seniors and family/guests are welcome to take their time moving between the Grove and the Quadrangle, i.e., between the ceremony and the dinner. We will have extra lighting for safe transitioning, but please be mindful that as the ceremony ends, the sun is setting.

Rain Plan: If weather forces us indoors, the ceremony will be held in the performance gym in the Taylor Family Athletic Center. While it will be set up safely, we will livestream the ceremony to the Haertter Hall auditorium for those guests who prefer more space.

GRADUATION DINNER

For the Class of 2021 & Up to Six Guests per Senior

8:45 pm, Sunday, June 6

JBS Quadrangle

Seating: Every senior and their family/guests will have their own table, some under the tent, others in the surrounding areas. Table assignments are based on the preferences shared when RSVPing for the dinner. Junior parents serve as hosts and there will be large poster displays with the table assignments.

Safety Protocols: We ask that everyone wear a mask and socially distance to the extent possible when not at their table.

Dinner: Tables will be preset with crudité and dessert boxes. Your pre-ordered meals will be brought to your table in boxes.

Drinks: A carafe of water and a carafe of lemonade will be on each table, and wine and champagne will be served. Please do not bring additional beverages.

Restrooms: The Haertter Hall restrooms (on the west end of the Quadrangle) will be available.

End Time: When everyone is finished with dinner (around 10:15 pm), family/guests depart so that the class's post-party may begin. A committee of parents has planned this event, which runs from 11 pm to 1 am on campus. The event will be carefully chaperoned, and off-duty police will be in attendance. Seniors who do not stay for dinner are encouraged to return for this party, which is for the class only (no outside guests).

Rain Plan: If the ceremony is held indoors, the dinner will be held in the tent and in the Commons (the tables in the Commons will have extra space between them).