

SANTA TERESA HIGH SCHOOL 2020 GRADUATION CONTRACT / INFORMATION

The following is important information concerning graduation requirements necessary to participate in the 2020 graduation ceremony.

***** The current NM Public Health Orders and GUSD Student Health Services Department will determine the type of ceremony we will be allowed to have.**

On the date listed we will either have a:

- Traditional ceremony with limited audience members present (2 to 3 guests allowed)
OR
- A drive through graduation with the students crossing Victory Lane
 - You are allowed to have as many people in your car as there are seatbelts.

Both ceremonies will be livestreamed for family unable to attend.

Graduation is Wednesday July 15th, 2020 at 8:00pm at the Vado Speedway Park – Vado, NM

1. DIGNITY OF CEREMONY: Graduation is a formal and traditional ceremony. Graduation is the culmination of 12 years of hard work. Parents, relatives, and students want their graduation to be one that they will always remember. Rules and policies are established by high schools to insure that graduation is a respected and memorable affair. We ask for your cooperation so that GRADUATION 2020 will be very memorable and special for all the graduates.

Every graduate and his or her family should be able to hear his/her name being announced. For that reason, graduates, parents, and guests are asked to leave all materials that would create an undignified atmosphere at home. All inappropriate items will be confiscated at the door and not returned. Such materials include but are not limited to, noisemakers, banners, cowbells, air horns, inflatable items, signs, umbrellas, balloons, silly string, confetti, beach balls, etc. Security has been instructed to ban admission to anyone who does not comply with these requests. Security will also remove from the ceremony any graduate or audience member who violates the decorum of the event. Any senior who behaves in a disruptive and/or disrespectful manner at any point during the ceremony will be removed from the Vado Speedway Park and have their official diploma withheld by administration.

All graduates are expected to act in a courteous manner before, during, and until the conclusion of the graduation ceremony. You are asked to refrain from talking during the ceremony. Making loud comments or embarrassing comments about other graduates will not be tolerated.

Participation in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, not a right. Behavior should reflect the pride in you, your family, and Santa Teresa High School. If you do not feel you can uphold the standards of Santa Teresa High School, please arrange to pick up your diploma after June 9, 2020

2. GRADUATION PRACTICE: Due to the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic an in person practice will not take place. Prior to the ceremony date we will share information with Seniors on how to line up, ceremony procedures, etiquette and other necessary program information.

- 4. GRADUATION DRESS CODE:** The school administration and class officers established a dress code many years ago. This dress code will again be required of all students wishing to participate in the commencement exercises. Students who are not in the required dress code will not be allowed to participate in the commencement ceremony. The dress code is simple, inexpensive and will be strictly enforced.

MALES:

- BLACK pants/slacks, no jeans and no khaki's.
- WHITE dress shirt (no colored shirts)
- BLACK necktie (no big designs on necktie). Must wear a necktie.
- BLACK shoes—no tennis shoes and no boots with metal buckles or chains.

FEMALES:

- BLACK dress or BLACK pants/slacks if dress/slacks go BELOW gown line.
- If dress is completely covered by gown, may wear any color dress.
- No jeans and no khaki's
- BLACK shoes— **NO HEELS** as they may be unsafe to walk in during the ceremony. Black shoes should not have any other color within the shoe.
- No collar may stick out of the neck gown.

ALL JEWELRY FOR BOTH MALES AND FEMALES MUST BE WORN INSIDE THE GRADUATION GOWN.

Nothing may be worn, written, painted, pinned, taped, or attached in any manner to the gown or cap or graduates clothing. The graduate may carry no signs of any kind. You may not carry flowers during the ceremony. Nothing may be painted on the face or hands. Colored hair is not permitted.

NO cell phones, tablets, silly string, water guns, balloons, confetti, cameras, sunglasses, flowers, horns, purses, GUM, keys, etc. are allowed. All items will be confiscated and will need to be picked up at school the following week.

Students will be checked prior to lining up for the processional start of graduation.

Only traditional cords/stoles may be worn—These are stoles and cords awarded by school sponsored clubs and awarded at the Senior Awards Ceremony. NO OTHER STOLES OR CORDS MAY BE WORN UNLESS RECEIVED AT THE SENIOR AWARDS CEREMONY. STOLES ARE ONLY AWARDED TO NHS MEMBERS, MEDALS ONLY AWARDED TO VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN. PINS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE WORN.

5. REPORT TIME:

- a. **PRACTICE-** No in person practice. Needed information will be sent ahead of time.
- b. **GRADUATION-**all graduates should report to the Vado Speedway Park on Wednesday July 15th promptly by 7:00 p.m.
- c. **Graduation ceremony starts promptly at 8:00 p.m.** and all graduates must be checked and in line before moving to the Victory Lane area. **PLEASE BE ON TIME.**

- 6. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS (DEBTS):** ALL debts must be paid in order to receive your diploma on graduation day AND participate in the graduation ceremony. If all debts have not been paid by graduation day, you will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony or receive your diploma.

- 6. ELIGIBILITY FOR GRADUATION:** Please remember that in order to be eligible to participate in graduation; each student must first meet three basic requirements:

- a. Have the required number of courses and credits.
- b. Have a parent signature on their "Next Step Plan" as required by the PED.
- c. Have signed (by student and parent) a graduation contract.

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