



**Bayless High School**  
**National School of Character**  
4532 Weber Road  
St. Louis, Missouri 63123  
314-256-8660  
fax. 314-544-6344

July 21, 2020

Bayless High School Class of 2020,

Due to the dramatic rise in COVID-19 cases among county residents between 10 and 30 years of age, the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health discourages social gatherings of any kind or size, such as graduation events. Today it is being reported in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* that more than 20 people have tested positive for COVID-19 after attending an outdoor graduation ceremony at a local high school.

Due to this report and others like it, the Saint Louis County Department of Public Health has issued more restrictive COVID-19 guidelines. Therefore, the 2020 BHS Commencement event scheduled on Friday, July 24, will be a personal event for each graduate and his/her three guests in the Keller Auditorium at Bayless High School.

This is the process we will following:

On Friday, July 24:

1. Beginning at 5:45 PM, graduates (with last names beginning with letters A-K) and their three guests will remain in their automobiles, lined up behind the elementary school.
  - a. A number of individual cars will be dismissed periodically to cross Weber Road and proceed to behind the high school. Once there, volunteers will be outside directing vehicles. Volunteers will also be in the building to guide graduates and their three guests through this individual process.
2. Graduates and their three guests will enter through "Door 51" in the back of the high school. Each individual who enters a Bayless building must wear a mask/face covering.
3. Each graduate and their three guests will be escorted to the Auditorium.
  - a. Once inside and on the stage, each graduating senior will have his or her name read.
  - b. Each graduate will then walk across the stage and participate in the individual graduation ceremony while their three guests will be able to take video and photographs.
    - i. When walking across the stage, graduates will wear all graduation honor cords, medallions and stoles, but will not be required to, but may choose to, wear a facemask during this individual ceremony. *Trotter Photography* will take individual pictures.

Despite graduates receiving their diplomas individually at graduation, the Auditorium will be decorated, all speeches will be pre-recorded and the event will be video edited. Once completed, the 2020 BHS Commencement video will be shared with parents, students and our community following the graduation event.

### **Bayless High School Individual Graduation Event**

- Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>
- 6 PM -8 PM



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- Keller Auditorium

**Graduates with last names beginning with letters A-K, line up behind the elementary beginning at 5:45 PM through 6:45 PM.**

**Graduates with last names beginning with letters L-Z, line up behind the elementary beginning at 6:45 PM through 7:45 PM.**

We appreciate your patience as we deal with this difficult and ever-changing pandemic. Our goal has been to honor the Bayless High School Class of 2020 in the best way we can in light of all the restrictions we face.

Thank you,

S. Patrick McEvoy, Principal  
Bayless High School