



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL

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SEUNG YU
Principal

MATTHEW POLAZZO
Coordinator of Student Affairs

Dear Graduate, Parent, Guardian, or Guest:

I'd like to begin by thanking you for your patience. This has been an incredibly crazy process, made much more complicated by the constantly changing state guidelines. The reason why we have not communicated more information is that the rules have been evolving, sometimes daily. All that being said, we are now ready to begin the ticketing process. Also, I'd like to answer some of the questions that people have been sending me.

- 1. Ticketing** Just this morning, Arthur Ashe sent us the tickets for the event, but all ticketing will be electronic. This means that your tickets will be emailed to you at whatever email address you entered into the graduation form. It will take us a bit of time to link tickets to email addresses, but I hope to have them all out by the end of the weekend. Please note that each group will get one ticket for the graduate and then 1, 2 or 3 tickets for guests. Graduates will sit with their homerooms and guests will be together in the loge section of the stadium. Please note that we cannot grant more than 3 tickets at this time—sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.
- 2. Health Concerns** As you may be aware, the state just changed its guidelines for sporting events and stadiums a couple of days ago. Though Arthur Ashe is covered by a roof, it is considered an outdoor facility due to the levels of air circulation and size of the venue. This means that, as of this week, no Covid testing will be necessary, nor will it be necessary to provide proof of vaccination to attend. I know that we sent out communication a couple of weeks ago that contradicts this, but the guidance has since changed. Therefore, to enter the venue, the only requirement will be to fill out the NYCDOE Health Screening—the same one that all students and guests have been using to enter DOE facilities. Additionally, we are asking all attendees to wear masks at all times. Finally, due to the size of our graduating class and proximity to the stage, all guests and grads will NOT be socially distanced. Anyone who feels uncomfortable sitting close to another group of guests (including graduates) will have the option to socially distance by moving up to the higher levels, which will be open for all (we will only be ticketing the bottom of the stadium).
- 3. Start Times and Directions** As you hopefully know by now, graduation will take place at Arthur Ashe stadium. The address is 124-02 Roosevelt Avenue, in Flushing, Queens. Parking is available at Citi Field, but is not free—it will cost \$25. If you are coming by subway, the 7 train provides service from Grand Central Terminal to Mets-Willets Point Station, including

connections for all Metro-North Trains from Westchester and Connecticut. Service is also available from the Port Authority Bus Terminal. Additionally, the LIRR provides easy service to Mets-Willets Point Station from Woodside, and convenient connections from Penn Station for New Jersey Transit customers. For guests with disabilities, get off the LIRR train at 61st Street-Woodside Station and transfer to the 7 train. Take the 7 train to Mets-Willets Point Station.

While the ceremony itself will begin at 12 noon, doors will open at 10:30am. We encourage all attendees to arrive as early as possible as we intend to start at exactly noon.

4. **Cap and Gown and other Senior Items** All seniors should have received their senior package by now—this contains their cap, gown, senior t-shirt, diploma case and keychain. If you do not have your package yet, it is not too late—please contact me ASAP. The diplomas themselves have been calligraphed but are being stamped and will be available for pickup at the school on either June 28 or June 29. You should receive a separate email about pickup. The 2021 yearbook is available to purchase for \$80 through this link:
<https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/index.cfm/job/14186>

5. **Plan for the Day** At noon, we will have speeches and we will play some previously recorded performance from the chorus and band. Seniors will cross the stage as they would have during a normal graduation, and while there will be no handshaking, they will have the opportunity to bump fists or elbows with the principal. When each senior crosses the stage, their picture will be displayed on the big screen along with their name—so long as slides were uploaded to the MarchingOrder website. Seniors will go by official class, starting with 7A. All students who are not present will also have their name and picture displayed on the big screen immediately after their homeroom has crossed the stage. We hope to be done by 4pm at the latest, but this is our first graduation of this nature, and we ask that you be patient with us.

I hope that this has answered most of your questions, but if you want any more information, please feel free to email me at polazzo@stuy.edu.

Yours truly,

Matt Polazzo
Coordinator of Student Affairs/Senior Advisor