



## **NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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Dear Staff and Parents,

While it seems hard to believe, spring has arrived and year-end school activities are on the horizon. I have been visiting classrooms throughout the district and have been so pleased to see the commitment to maintain in-person instruction in a safe environment, which could not have been possible without the ongoing commitment by staff and students in employing mitigation strategies. These precautionary measures - including masks and social distancing - will continue to play a role as we plan and finalize year-end activities.

### Spring Sports

Spring sports for the 2021 season has officially begun. The first practice/tryout date was held on Saturday March 27th with first competitions happening on Saturday April 10th. SWC Conference and CIAC State Championships will be taking place as well. Any and all tryout/ practice information can be found at [nighthawksports.com](http://nighthawksports.com) with all schedules posted at [ciacsports.com](http://ciacsports.com).

### End-of-Year Activities

School leaders shared plans for field days, 8th grade Moving Up, and Newtown High School Commencement at a March BOE meeting. These are memorable moments for our students and families, and we want to be sure details are in place so that activities and ceremonies are in compliance with DPH guidelines for gatherings to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and families.

The following is a brief overview of NMS and NHS ceremonies:

### Newtown Middle School Moving Up

Two ceremonies are scheduled: Wednesday, June 9th and Thursday, June 10th. On each date, two clusters will participate in a Moving Up Ceremony held outside at NMS (back field area) at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

A rain date is scheduled for Monday, June 14.

### NMS Field Days

NMS also plans on allowing field days for both 7th and 8th grades. These will comply with spacing/social distancing requirements.

## Newtown High School Graduation

Newtown High School is planning two graduation ceremonies: Friday, June 11th and Saturday, June 12. On each date, approximately ½ of the senior class will participate in one of the two graduation ceremonies, which will be held on the football field. On Friday, June 11th, commencement will begin at 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday, June 12th, commencement will begin at 2:00 p.m.

A rain date for commencement is scheduled for Friday, June 11, which includes a second ceremony on Saturday, June 12th at 5:00 p.m. (Sunday, June 13 is also a rain date as needed).

## Junior BBQ

A BBQ/Picnic including lawn games, music and an ice cream truck is being planned for our high school juniors and will be held at Dickinson Park. Details to follow.

## Senior Prom

“A Night Under the Stars,” which is the theme of the senior prom, is tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 4th and will be held on the football field.

End-of-year activities for all elementary schools and Reed are being planned. Field days and other activities will follow appropriate social distancing and comply with guidelines for gatherings. Information will be shared by building leaders in the coming days.

Thank you and stay well.

Dr. Lorrie Rodrigue, Superintendent