

April 18, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian of the Candidates of the Class of 2022:

The Board of Education, administration, and faculty at Warren Township High School are very proud to invite you to the 105th Commencement Ceremony honoring the Class of 2022 at the NOW Arena in Hoffman Estates, Illinois, on Sunday, May 22, 2022. The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. with the graduate processional.

In this letter, we would like to provide you with the final arrangements, and we have also included additional information that will help make this a memorable ceremony. While families may choose to celebrate the occasion after the ceremony, we are asking for your cooperation to help us create a *formal* and *dignified* salute to our wonderful seniors in the Class of 2022.

Graduation from high school is a once-in-a-lifetime event, and traditionally at Warren Township High School, it has been a memorable event for all involved. We are very proud of our seniors and their many accomplishments over the past four years. They have, in every way, exemplified themselves as excellent representatives of their family, school, and community.

We are guests at the NOW Arena for this event and have met with them to discuss their expectations. Please share the following spectator expectations with your family and friends who will be attending:

- The NOW Arena parking lots will open at 9:00 a.m. for guest arrival.
- Handicapped parking is located outside of the main entrance. The NOW Arena only recognizes the official state issued parking permits.
- The NOW Arena doors will open at 10:00 a.m. for guests with a ticket to enter the arena.
- No balloons will be allowed in the arena, and the NOW Arena security personnel will implement their guest bag search policy upon entrance to the arena. If you are carrying a bag, please be prepared to have your bag searched.
- The NOW Arena will not allow the saving of seats. Each guest over the age of two will be required to have a ticket to enter, and seating is general seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Graduates will not need a ticket to enter the arena.
- There will be identified seating, which allows for a wheelchair/disabled guest to be accompanied by one additional guest. This will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The NOW Arena does not provide wheelchairs.
- Sign language interpreters will be provided for the ceremony. Seating will be reserved on the lower level near the stage.
- Individual photographs on the main floor at the NOW Arena will not be permitted by guests. VIP Photography will take individual photographs of each student at the graduation ceremony. Ordering information is included in this communication.
- Please review the expectations for proper student attire to participate in the ceremony. We also expect spectators to honor this request with attire befitting a formal ceremony.
- Parents are not allowed in the staging area before the ceremony. After the formal recessional, family and friends should discuss a place to meet the graduate for congratulations and pictures after they exit the arena. The graduates will exit the arena at the conclusion of the ceremony.

- Please hold applause until all students have received their diplomas. Loud cheers, whistles, noise makers, etc. are disruptive to the dignity of the program. Family and friends are looking forward to hearing their graduate's name. Please respect that we would like the attention to remain focused on the graduates and not the audience.
- The NOW Arena will have their own security staff and local police monitoring the arena and parking lot. The NOW Arena does not allow tailgating before or after the event, and they do not allow the possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages for graduation ceremonies.
- The NOW Arena is a smoke-free facility. Smoking or other use of tobacco or similar products is not permitted anywhere in the building.

Occasionally, there is discussion about a senior prank. Please understand that we do not recognize or condone senior pranks. In many instances, these pranks are disruptive and often costly to the district and the individuals involved. Our position is one that discourages activities of this type. **Any student participating in such activities will be prevented from participation in our commencement ceremony and is subject to school and/or legal consequences.** In an effort to make this last semester memorable, please help us in making sure we have a good finish to the school year.

We appreciate your support and involvement in making this ceremony special. We also thank you for the opportunity to have worked so closely with your students over the past four years. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, May 22, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rob Parrott
Principal
Almond Campus

Dr. Laura Kirk
Associate Principal
Almond Campus

Mr. Matthew Jones
Assistant Principal
Almond Campus

Mrs. Michele Bertola
Principal
O'Plaine Campus

Mr. Chuck Maurer
Associate Principal
O'Plaine Campus

Dr. Peter Kupfer
Assistant Principal
O'Plaine Campus

Ms. Betsy Sagala
Senior Class Sponsor

Mrs. Val Ayabarreno
Senior Class Sponsor

IMPORTANT DATES, TIMES, AND INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

<u>Senior Bills</u>	Unpaid bills have been distributed on a monthly basis throughout the school year. Students who have unpaid bills, textbooks fees, Chromebook related fees, or lunch balances due to the district will be expected to rectify their balance before receiving their cap and gown. To avoid textbook fees, be sure to turn in all textbooks by the designated due date. At the end of your senior year , you are able to keep possession of your Chromebook at no additional cost. You are still responsible for any unpaid repair or replacement fees that have been assessed to your account during the school year. All WTHS graduating seniors are required to attend textbook/Chromebook return to remove your Chromebook from your account. To avoid being sent to a collection agency, please be sure to pay any balances due in full by the end of the school year. Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover payments may be made through our online fee payment site at www.d121.org . Payments can also be made by cash, check, or charge to Warren Township High School, attention Cheryl Maiden, at 34090 Almond Road, Gurnee, IL 60031.
<u>Last Day for Seniors</u>	The last day of school for the Class of 2022 who have completed all graduation requirements is Monday, May 16, 2022.
<u>Senior Exit Survey</u>	As part of your senior check out process, you will be required to complete your Senior Exit Survey in Maia Learning. Click for the step-by-step senior exit instructions including how to request your final transcript. Please note you can only request ONE final transcript to be sent to a college in Maia Learning and complete the exit survey ONCE. Students should log into their ACT/SAT accounts and be sure to send official ACT/SAT scores to the school they plan to attend. Please see your school counselor if you have any questions. Please also see the 2022 Graduation Candidate Checklist . It includes information on the FAFSA, technology check-out, as well as some very helpful information on the transition to post-secondary life.
<u>Class of 2022 Check Out/Graduation Supply Pick Up (Required)</u>	The Class of 2022 check out/graduation supply pick up is Thursday, May 19, 2022, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Almond Campus. Graduate candidates will be checking out at a variety of stations, including meeting with their school counselor, tech support, the business office, and their graduate supply pick up. All graduate candidates are required to attend.
<u>No Graduation Practice</u>	We will not have graduation practice this year. Students will receive details about the graduation ceremony through email and with their graduation supplies picked up during the Class of 2022 check out/graduation supply pick up. Included in that information will be the graduate candidate's seat and row location, ceremony staging information, note cards to bring to the ceremony for the name readers, honor cords, and eight (8) graduation tickets.
<u>Ceremony Attire</u>	Appropriate attire for the formal ceremony includes; dresses, dress slacks, skirts, dress shirts (tie optional), blouses and sweaters. Dress shoes/dress sandals with a low heel are suggested (no flip flops). Graduates will pass through a metal detector as they enter door #11. Students will be required to pass by the deans with open gowns to demonstrate appropriate attire as they start the processional.
<u>Conduct</u>	Attendance at graduation ceremonies is optional for seniors; however, if a graduate chooses to participate, the graduate agrees to observe all rules and policies as outlined in these pages and in accordance with the school rules as defined in the WTHS Student-Parent Handbook. All school rules do apply. No student will be allowed to participate in the ceremony that has not completed all of the graduation requirements.
<u>Tassels</u>	All tassels are worn on the right and moved to the left when prompted at the end of the ceremony.
<u>Academic Honors</u>	The Class of 2022 will be recognized based on the Cum Laude system. The Cum Laude system has three levels of academic distinction. The information used for recognition at Warren Township High School is based on the student's cumulative weighted GPA at the end of their seventh semester. The Class of 2022 will be recognized using the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cum Laude students will wear a gold academic cord if they have achieved a GPA between a 3.900 and 4.199. • Magna Cum Laude students will wear a gold academic stole if they have achieved a GPA between a 4.200 and 4.399. • Summa Cum Laude students will wear a blue and gold academic stole if they have achieved a GPA of 4.400 or higher.
<u>Announcements</u>	Graduation announcements can still be ordered online at www.jostens.com

<u>Cap/Gown</u>	<p>If you have not ordered your cap and gown yet you can order online at www.jostens.com.</p> <p>Cap and gown distribution is part of the Class of 2022 check out/graduation supply pick up on Thursday, May 19, 2022, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Almond Campus. Graduating seniors shall wear school-required graduation robes for the graduation ceremony with the exception of any graduating senior who is currently an active member of the United States Armed Forces, who shall be entitled to wear his or her military dress uniform in lieu of graduation robes provided; however, no weaponry is to be worn as part of the uniform.</p> <p>Double check your robe, tassel, and cap at home before you leave for the ceremony. We do not have “spare parts.” You should place the gown on a hanger, as most wrinkles will hang out. Usually, no ironing is required. If needed, bring bobby pins for your cap. Leave the plastic bag from your cap and gown at home or in your car. Students will keep their cap, gown and tassel after the ceremony. No jewelry, flowers/corsages, or markings should be worn on the cap and/or gown. In addition, only those items distributed by Warren Township High School should be worn or displayed on the cap and/or gown. The only items distributed by Warren Township High School which are allowed to be worn at the ceremony are honors cords (Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, Summa Cum Laude, NHS, Spanish NHS, French NHS, German NHS, and Theatre NHS) and the commemorative medallion handed out to the graduate candidates at the Class of 2022 check out/graduation supply pick up. You will be asked to remove any items not distributed by Warren Township High School. Do not bring any items (ex: purse, cameras, etc.) with you that need to be carried or stored during the ceremony.</p>
<u>Ceremony</u>	<p>Commencement will begin at 11:00 a.m. at The NOW Arena and will last approximately two hours. Graduates must report to door #11 by 10:00 a.m. on the east corner of The NOW Arena. Signs will be posted directing the graduates. Please allow at least one hour of travel time to travel from the Gurnee area to The NOW Arena. The boys should remove their caps for the National Anthem. The boys should replace their caps at the Anthem’s conclusion.</p> <p>Junior Marshalls will direct each row of graduates to approach the stage. As you ascend the stairs, hand your name card to the reader and step forward as your name is read to receive your diploma cover from a Board member and/or an administrator. All graduates should keep their cap on when receiving their diploma cover. After you have received your diploma cover, please report back to your seat.</p>
<u>Recessional</u>	<p>Guided by our Junior Marshalls, all graduates will be involved in an orderly recessional at the conclusion of the ceremony. Students will utilize exit paths at the front and rear of the arena and then proceed to exit the building meeting up with family and friends outside of the building.</p>
<u>Diploma</u>	<p>Graduates will be given their diploma upon returning to their seat by the assigned staff member in their row. Diplomas not picked up at the ceremony can be picked up beginning Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at the Almond Campus during normal business hours. If an error should occur on your diploma, please bring the diploma to the main office at the Almond Campus and a corrected copy will be requested. A change of mind for your name does not constitute an error. This type of new diploma will require a fee.</p>
<u>Tickets</u>	<p>Each participating graduate will receive eight (8) tickets. Tickets will be given out to participating graduates at the Class of 2022 check out/graduation supply pick up. It is our recommendation that if you need more tickets, have your student communicate with other graduates who may not be using their allotment of tickets. We will not be offering the opportunity to request extra tickets above the allotted eight (8). Graduates will not need a ticket to enter the arena; however, friends, family, and children over the age of two will need a ticket to be admitted into the arena.</p>
<u>Pictures</u>	<p>Visual Image Photography will be photographing your student's diploma portrait against a backdrop just before walking across the stage at this year's graduation ceremony. All images will be posted online for view and purchase. Parents will receive an email within a week of graduation linking them to their child’s graduation photo. If you do not receive an email, please visit www.vipis.com to view and purchase your graduation photos. Type in the name of your school and click on the graduation tile. Enter the student’s full name and an email address. This will bring up your student’s diploma portrait as well as the graduation candids, a link to your senior portraits, and access to event photos from this past year at WTHS. All print orders are sent directly to the address entered at checkout Questions? Contact Visual Image Photography at support@vipis.com or 262-375-4457.</p>



COMMENCEMENT 2022

**DIRECTIONS TO
THE NOW ARENA
5333 PRAIRIE STONE PKWY
HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60192**

The NOW Arena is located in the Prairie Stone Business Park immediately north of the Northwest Tollway and west of Illinois Route 59.

From the East

Take I-90 West (Northwest Tollway) to the New Sutton Road (Route 59) exit and go straight. The arena will be on your right.

From the West

Take I-90 (Northwest Tollway) to the New Sutton Road (Route 59) exit. Turn left onto New Sutton Road and go north to the next traffic light. At the light, make a left turn onto Hoffman Boulevard. The arena will be on your right.

**See the NOW Arena website for additional directions and traffic information:
www.nowarena.com**

The NOW Arena Graduate Drop-Off and Pick-Up Map
ADA PARKING MAP FOR NOW ARENA
The NOW Arena Seating Chart