MDHS Graduation Guidelines and FAQs

- **Q:** How many tickets will my graduate be issued?
- **A:** Tickets will not be issued. 1 car per graduating Senior will be allowed; Graduating Senior must be inside the car. Color coded entry passes will be distributed for each ceremony.

- **Q:** Where will the ceremony take place?
- **A:** The ceremony will be in the Senior section of the Monarch Way Lot in front of the Meruelo Athletic Center. The stage will be in front of the MAC entrance, and families' cars will be parked in the senior parking area of the Monarch Lot facing the stage.

- **Q:** Where should we park?
- **A:** All families are to enter through the Monarch Way Lot, unless directed otherwise. The gate for the Monarch Lot will open 30 MINUTES before each ceremony and close at the start of the ceremony. Latecomers will be directed to the parking structure.

- **Q:** Will social distancing guidelines be enforced?
- **A:** Yes. There will be one empty parking spot between all cars. Additionally, all family members are to remain inside of their cars for the duration of the ceremony. Students will also be spaced six feet apart when lining up to walk the stage. In order to ensure the safety of all in attendance, everyone will be required to wear a face mask.

- **Q:** Will photography be allowed?
- **A:** Yes, you are allowed to take photos during the event; however, you must remain inside your vehicle. A professional photographer will also be present taking photos of the event and of the graduating seniors as they receive their diploma covers. These photos will be available for purchase from South Coast Photographic.

- **Q:** Is my graduating Senior allowed to decorate his/her cap?
- **A:** No. However, students will be allowed to wear leis or other decorative, Christian decent necklaces during the ceremony.

- **Q:** Will my graduating Senior be required to wear a face mask?
- **A:** Yes, graduating seniors will be required to wear a face mask, which will be provided by Mater Dei High School. However, they will be allowed to remove the face mask for their professional photo.

- **Q:** Will the event be live streamed?
- **A:** Yes. Each ceremony will be live streamed. A commemorative video will also be made available after the ceremony with additional features and content, free of charge. Detailed information on how to access the live stream will be made available in the days leading up to the ceremonies. The live stream will be broadcast in the U.S. only. However, the commemorative video will be made accessible worldwide.
• Q: When can I sign up for the ceremony of my choice?
  A: The portal for sign-ups will be opened on Thursday May 7 at 5:00PM. Sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis. Questions regarding sign-ups should be directed to Ms. Jeanette Costa at jcosta@materdei.org.

• Q: The date/time of my first choice is no longer available. What should I do?
  A: Sign-ups are on a first-come/first-serve basis. We recommend you sign up for the ceremony of your choice as early as possible.

• Q: Will limousines or party busses be allowed?
  A: No oversized vehicles will be allowed. All vehicles MUST fit in a standard-sized parking spot. No RVs, trailers, large conversion vans, or lifted vehicles that may obstruct the view of standard sized vehicles.

• Q: How will graduating Seniors be organized before walking across the stage?
  A: Students will exit their vehicle upon entry and will be lined up in front of the MAC six feet apart. Faculty/Staff will also be present to maintain that social distancing guidelines are enforced in order to ensure the safety of graduating Seniors and all present.

• Q: When can my graduating Senior pick up his/her cap and gown?
  A: Cap and gown distribution will take place on May 26 from 9am-3pm and May 27 from 9am-12pm. At this time, yearbooks and special graduation cords will also be distributed. Seniors who were unable to attend the drive-thru 4.0 Stole Ceremony can also receive their stoles on these dates. Graduating Seniors will also turn in their iPads at this event. This drive-thru event will take place in the Monarch Way Lot. Seniors do not need to return the caps and gowns.

• Q: What exactly does our $75 fee cover?
  A: Your fee covers the cost of graduation items such as cap and gown (which students will be able to keep) and other miscellaneous items such as event staging, decorations, lights, video walls, enhanced audio, event set-up, production, and live streaming.

• Q: What is the dress code for graduating Seniors?
  A: For Male Students: Dress slacks, dress shirt and tie, dress socks and dress shoes. Cleanly shaven, no lines/designs shaved on head. Earrings and tongue rings are NEVER permitted. Jeans, corduroys, cargo/carpenter and Dickies are NOT permitted.

  For Female Students: Dresses dress pants or pant suits, or skirts with blouses or sweaters and dress shoes (wedges are preferable). Mini dresses and spaghetti straps are not permitted. All dresses must conform to Mater Dei dress code standards for modesty. Dresses cannot be more than 3 inches above the knee. Sandals or flip-flops are not permitted.

  Those improperly dressed and not wearing their regalia will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.

• Q: Will restrooms be available?
  A: Yes. Security personnel will be direct guests to the nearest available restroom.

• Q: How do we enter the MD campus for the ceremony?
  A: Families will enter through the North (Edinger Ave.) end of the Monarch Way lot. Security and other MD personnel will be present to facilitate check-in and direct you to the viewing area. Once in the viewing area you will also be assisted by Security personnel with parking in a designated viewing spot.

Updated May 7, 2020