



DOMINICAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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May 18, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Greetings of Peace!

We wish to inform you that due to COVID-19, the Dominican Catholic School Class of 2020 Kindergarten and 8th Grade Graduation, and 5th Grade Promotion Ceremonies will be different this year, but it surely will be remembered.

DCS administrators have come up with a way to make it possible for the candidates for graduation and promotion and especially for the 8th graders to be together for one last time and still experience graduation while observing COVID-19 social distancing and crowd size guidelines. It was a challenge for the school to plan such an event, but it wanted the students to have the opportunity to participate in this unique ceremony physically, not virtually.

Schedule and Venue:

Instead of the traditional commencement rites held inside the gymnasium, graduates will be recognized during a ceremony in front of the Veritas Hall. The open space outside the gym lobby and above the steps will serve as the stage. It will become like a "drive thru graduation ceremony".

Here is the time schedule for each class:

Kindergarten: (Thursday) May 28, 2020 at 4:00 PM.

5th Graders & 8th Graders: (Friday) May 29, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Attire:

Kinder and 8th grade students should come wearing their graduation caps and gowns. The 5th graders will wear their school uniform. Long sleeves dress uniform, black shoes and white socks and the boys may opt to wear short polo shirt with patch or white long sleeves with or without patch and royal blue neck tie, blue pants, black shoes and white socks. All may wear leis if they wish.

Everyone should wear mask. All are advised to place a signage of their names on the window or windshields for easier and faster recognition. 8th graders may decorate their vehicle in celebration of their accomplishment.

Arrival and Parking:

Thirty minutes before the scheduled class ceremonies, students and their parents or guardians may begin arriving at the school and park at their designated parking space. To make sure everyone is social distancing, the school is asking that the graduates and companions ride together. Strictly **one car** per graduate only. All must remain in their vehicles throughout the ceremonies.

Program:

The ceremony will be simple, and it will include the traditional graduation moments, including prayers, presentation of candidates for graduation, confirmation of graduation, music, and calling of the names of the graduates for the distribution of diplomas and awards. It will end with the singing of the school song, the Dominican Hymn. Student speeches will be omitted this year.

Distribution of Certificates and Awards:

During the distribution of certificates and awards, all cars will start to move towards the gym and would stop at the designated spot. The graduate exits the car and go up **ALONE** to the stage to receive his/her medals and/or certificates while companions staying with the car to take photos. Then, the graduate returns to the car and may opt to leave. Those who choose to stay and finish the ceremonies to give respect to other graduates should return to their designated parking and remain in their cars till the end.

Official diploma and report card will be issued at the Office upon submission of clearance.

Recessional:

For the recessional, those who opt to stay may once again pass in front of the gym while the graduation music, "*Pomp and Circumstance*" plays.

Fees and Participation:

Attendance in this year's graduation rites is **voluntary**; however, a minimal fee will be charged to cover the expenses for the printing of certificates, purchase of medals, decorations, and graduation cap and gown rental. Please return the cap and gown a day or two after the event.

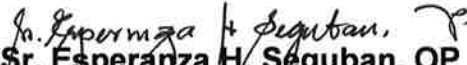
Other concerns:

You will be informed with the other details and if there are changes in the plan. You may contact your child's homeroom teacher if you have other concerns.

Please be guided accordingly. Hoping for usual support and cooperation.

God bless you!

Yours truly,


Sr. Esperanza H. Seguban, OP
Principal