

“COMMITTED TO HIGH PERFORMANCE”

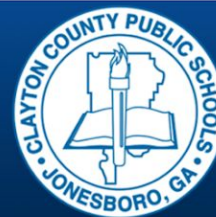
ADVISORY

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1058 Fifth Avenue | Jonesboro, GA 30236

770-473-2700

www.clayton.k12.ga.us



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Department of Communications, Public Relations & Marketing

Jada K. Dawkins

Chief of Communications

Telephone: (770) 472-7257

June 3, 2020

CCPS Class of 2020 Graduation Celebrations

Virtual graduation ceremonies set for June 25-26, 2020; Traditional affected by a pandemic

JONESBORO – As the leadership of Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) worked to close out the 2019-2020 school year and open the 2020-2021 school year, a plan of action has been under development to provide the Class of 2020 with a memorable ceremony celebrating the completion of their K-12 education that is in alignment with COVID-19 guidelines/restrictions.

The celebration of the Class of 2020 has seen a variety of special events across the district during the month of May including the posting of congratulatory yard signs in Clayton County towns and communities; school-based parades featuring graduates processing in their cars while family and friends cheered; and the distribution of diplomas and awards/scholarships at school/community sponsored events.

The next celebratory event will take place Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 25-27, 2020 as the district will present a virtual graduation ceremony for each school. Members of the graduating class have been contributing photos and video messages to be included in the program. The virtual graduation programs will be shared publicly following the tentative schedule outlined below. More information regarding how to access these virtual ceremonies will be shared at a later date.

Thursday, June 25	Friday, June 26	Saturday, June 27
10 am - Lovejoy HS	10 am - Jonesboro HS	10 am - Drew HS
1 pm - Mundy's Mill HS	1 pm - Mt. Zion HS	1 pm - North Clayton HS
4 pm - Morrow HS	4 pm - Elite Scholars Academy	4 pm - Riverdale HS
7 p.m. - Forest Park HS	7 pm - Stilwell SOA	7 pm - Perry Career Academy

Traditional Ceremony

The planning efforts to provide a traditional graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020 have been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Initial scheduling of ceremonies for June 25-26, 2020, to be held in the district's stadiums, had to be postponed. This action was prompted by the May 28, 2020,

announcement to extend the State of Emergency to July 12, 2020, by Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. The governor also announced the adjustment of the limit on group gatherings, from ten to 25 individuals, keeping all existing social distancing guidelines in place.

In an effort to comply with the State of Emergency, maximum group size limitations, and social distancing guidelines currently in place, district leadership has decided to postpone a traditional ceremony for the Class of 2020 to late summer or early fall. It is hoped that existing pandemic conditions as they relate to large group events will be more favorable. Details on the traditional ceremonies will be released as they become available.

About Clayton County Public Schools

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 55,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the fifth-largest school system in Georgia.

###