January 2020

Dear Senior Parent:

Central seniors will graduate on **Monday, May 18, 2020, at Baxter Arena at 7:00 p.m.** The purpose of this letter is to inform you of upcoming events so you can plan for them. Important information regarding graduation is included.

**Graduation Requirements**
Members of the Class of 2020 must earn 49 credits to graduate. Included in these credits are several required courses that must be passed before a student can graduate. Please contact **Julie Politi** (531) 299-5661 if you have questions about your son’s or daughter’s credit standing. You are also encouraged to keep in touch with individual teachers. Teachers may be contacted by phoning and leaving a message for them to return your call. You may also keep track of your student’s academic progress via the Portal. Please contact Paul Nielson at (531) 299-5557 (or **paul.nielson@ops.org**) if you need help with your Portal account.

**Commencement Tickets**
Tickets will be required for admission to the **Monday, May 18, 2020** graduation ceremony at the **Baxter Arena**. Each graduate will receive six free tickets and will be able to purchase seven additional tickets, for a maximum of thirteen tickets. Tickets will be sold from **April 14 through May 13** in the School Store. Our reason for limiting tickets is that we want to maintain a dignified graduation ceremony. This is difficult with large crowds. We appreciate your understanding.

**Debts Owed to Schools**
Seniors with outstanding debts are not allowed to participate in graduation activities or receive their diplomas. If your son or daughter owes money for Central High School or any other Omaha Public Schools, please see that the debt is paid as soon as possible. Please contact the main office at (531) 299-2660 if you have questions about fines.

**Expectations of Seniors**
The senior year is important, but the temptation to look ahead and lose focus is great. Seniors may be tempted to slack off academically, miss too many days of school, become involved in inappropriate activities such as vandalism or pranks, participate in the publication of hurtful documents such as senior wills and underground newspapers, “party” in excess, or use poor judgment. These actions jeopardize their education and can sometimes even endanger their lives and the lives of others. Our expectations of seniors remain high. We expect them to be in school, study, and follow the rules. Those who choose to break the rules will be disciplined. Disciplinary action may include not participating in the graduation ceremony.

**Senior Final Exam Policy**
All Seniors will take finals and they will be given on **Wednesday, May 6, 2020**, and on **Thursday, May 7, 2020**. On **Wednesday, May 6**, test will be administered for class periods fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth. On **Thursday, May 7**, test will be administered for class periods zero, first, second, third, and fourth. Students who missed tests for any reason will be allowed to make up tests on **Friday, May 8, 2020**. Failure to take a required final exam may result in loss of credit in the class.

**Last Day for Seniors**
Seniors will officially end the school year on **Friday, May 8, 2020**.
Cap and Gown Pick Up
Cap and gowns will be available for pick up at Central High from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 13. It is the graduate’s responsibility to pick up his or her cap and gown at that time and to take them to the graduation ceremony. The school will not deliver caps and gowns to Baxter Arena. All graduates must wear a cap and gown purchased from School Traditions in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. If you have not ordered a cap and gown, please call School Traditions as soon as possible (402) 733-0300 or visit the store in the Bel Air Plaza at 12100 West Center Road, #901, Omaha, Nebraska 68144 on Wednesday, 10:00-5:30 and Saturday, 10:00-12:00. The deadline for ordering a cap and gown is February 28.

Graduation Rehearsal
Rehearsal for the graduation ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 14 at Baxter Arena from 2:00 p.m. until approximately 4:00 p.m. Attendance is mandatory for all seniors planning to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Planning of graduation activities for the Class of 2020 is already under way. The Central High School staff will strive to make the ceremony very special for the graduates, their families, and friends.

We hope that the information presented in this letter will prove helpful as you plan for the graduation of your son or daughter. You will receive letters throughout the year with additional information. If you have questions, please call Assistant Principal, Ms. E. Dionne Kirksey, at (531) 299-5670.

Sincerely,

E. Dionne Kirksey
Assistant Principal

Important Dates
Tickets-April 14 through May 13
Finals-May 6 (5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
Finals-May 7 (0, 1, 2, 3, 4)
Last Day-May 8
Cap & Gown Pick Up-May 13
Graduation Practice-May 14
Graduation-May 18