



## **Update from the Middle School Division Head**

**May 7, 2020**

Hello 8th-Grade Families,

I'm writing to provide a quick update on our graduation planning. Everything is rolling along nicely!

I hope all of you enjoyed Coach Kern's tribute to our 8th-grade student-athletes. If you didn't get a chance to see the posters, [here's a short video](#). Field Day t-shirts that were not picked up are available at school. Contact [Ms. Tayler John](#) by email or by phone at 302.378.3179 x321, and she can have it ready for you when you arrive.

As you know, we recently surveyed eighth-grade families to gather your insights and thoughts about a graduation ceremony and ceremony date. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. There was overwhelming support for an outdoor ceremony on June 4th. That said, we wanted to ensure you could mark your calendars with this:

**Save The Date: Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 10:00 am on the St. Anne's Episcopal School campus**

Here is some other graduation-planning information we hope you will find helpful:

### **Graduation attire:**

**Boys:** Coat and tie with slacks. Please, no athletic shoes.

**Girls:** Dress or skirt of modest length or dress pants with top. Girls' shoulders must be covered. With regard to footwear, students will need to walk across the grass, which can be uneven.

### **Graduation portraits:**

This year we have again arranged for Erin Farrell Photography to take individual graduate portraits for families who choose to do so. Look for more information to be shared soon.

### **Graduation chair:**

This was an optional activity for our 8th-grade students this spring given our circumstances, and it is still optional; however, students who do design and decorate a chair will have the opportunity to share their chairs with the school community in some capacity. The details are still in the planning stages. A survey will be going out to your graduate-to-be to gather his/her thoughts and feelings about this.

Final thoughts:

We will have details about location, format, communication, etc. as well as other specifics that will be announced to you and the rest of the school community as we move through May. We have several other surprises planned for your 8th-grader in the upcoming weeks. Despite social distancing, our goal remains the same for your child(ren): to honor and celebrate our soon-to-be graduates, ensure a smooth transition from St. Anne's to their high school, and to have them graduate from St. Anne's Episcopal School with fond memories and joyful feelings about the positive impact each one of them has had on our school community.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Jill