



Southwestern Middle and High School

167 South Main Cross Street

Hanover, Indiana 47243

Telephone: 812-866-6220

Fax: 812-866-4680

Southwestern High School has issued a plan for the graduation ceremonies of the Class of 2020. We want to honor our graduates one last time as they become alumni of SHS. Like you, we are proud of their accomplishments and we look forward to celebrating them each year. The timing of graduation is very important as we have students that are moving on to their new lives after high school to chase their dreams.

The health and well-being of our students and community will remain our top priority; therefore, we must modify how we celebrate the Class of 2020. At present, and in consultation with our local health department, Southwestern High School will have a modified non-traditional virtual graduation ceremony.

A professional videographer will film each graduate receiving his/her diploma. It will be hosted at the SHS library and each graduate will be assigned a time slot across three days to walk across the graduation stage donning their cap and gown. Due to legal restrictions, each graduate is allowed up to 6-8 guests to accompany them if they choose and all guests will be asked to follow social distancing protocols. *The number of guests may change at any time due to restrictions set forth in accordance with the Governor's "Back on Track Indiana" Plan. Any student or guest with a fever or who is sick is asked to remain at home to avoid contact with the general public. The video of each graduate will be formatted to depict one ceremonial event. Each graduate will receive a DVD of the event and it will air on Madison TV15 (MetroNet Channel 15 and Spectrum Cable Channel 377). A link will also be provided to view the ceremony in full on our school's website and Facebook pages. Our modified non-traditional virtual graduation ceremony will be premiered for seniors, their families, and for public view on May 29, 2020, at 7:00pm.

Additionally, planning is currently in process for a parade portion of graduation to occur. More details concerning the parade will be forthcoming.

Our goal is to make this celebration memorable for our students, but also comply with the Indiana State Department of Health guidelines for social distancing. This decision was not made lightly. While we wish to salvage as much of the wonderfulness and memories that high school entails, we will not do it at the expense of the health of our students, staff, and community. We would like to thank you for your patience and cooperation while dealing with this unique situation as we prepare a graduation ceremony worthy of our students during these uncertain times.