



## NORTHBROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT 27

**Wood Oaks Junior High School**  
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May 20, 2021

Greetings Parents of the Wood Oaks Class of 2021:

As you know, we will be celebrating the end of your child's education in District 27 at Glenbrook North High School at noon on Sunday, May 30, 2021. We are thrilled that after a year of so many challenges, we will have the majority of the graduating class together in one place and have family and friends present to celebrate with us. Below is all of the information you should need to be prepared for this very special event.

### **Gown and Ticket Distribution**

Parents of graduates will be able to pick up their child's graduation gown, the ribbon to be worn on the right breast of the gown, four tickets to graduation, and a Class of 2021 yard sign (if ordered) at Wood Oaks from 9:00 - 10:00 am on Saturday, May 22. If you requested an additional ticket for the ceremony, we will have it for you at that time, too. The gowns are usually somewhat creased from their packaging and should be hung up and/or steamed to remove those wrinkles. The green and white ribbon should be pinned on the gown on the graduate's upper right side.

### **Graduation Practice**

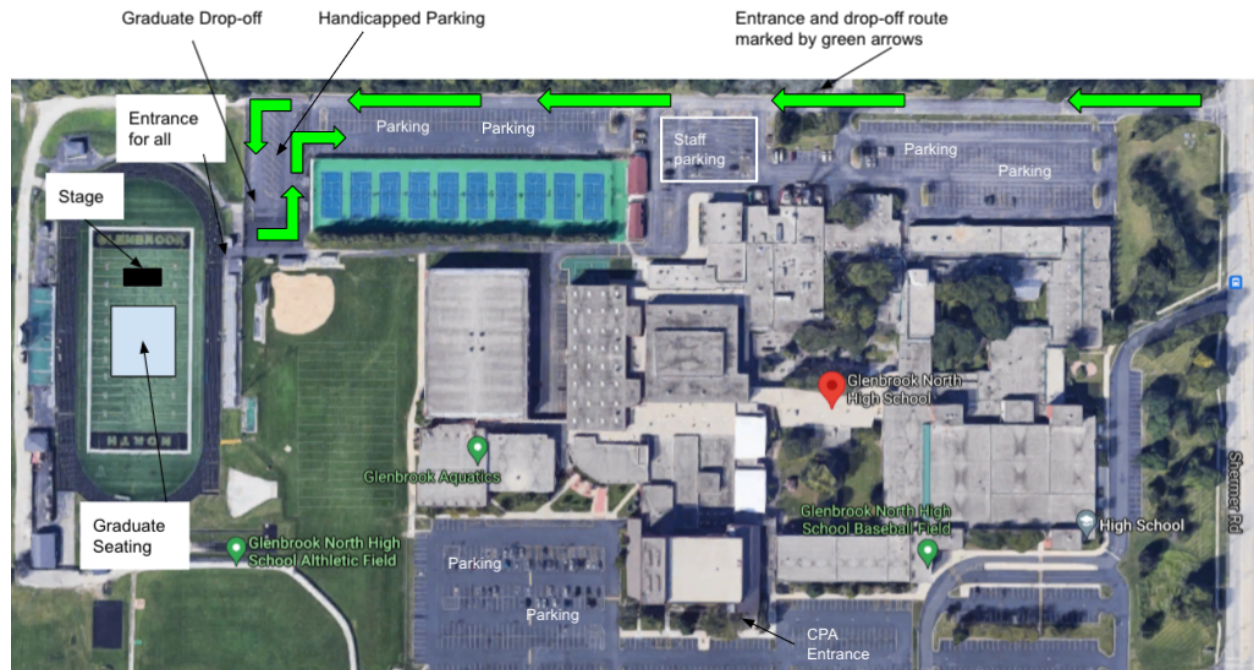
Graduation practice will be held for all 8th grade students starting second period (9 am) on Friday, May 28. We would like all students participating in the Sunday ceremony to be present for this practice. If your child is unable to make it to practice on this day, but is planning on coming to graduation, please let Dr. McElligott know as soon as possible. Your child should have already ordered a boxed lunch from Josh's for this day. Eighth grade students did this one day in their reading/LA class. After lunch, graduates will participate in COVID-safe Field Day type events with their homeroom class. They will end the day back in homeroom where those who ordered yearbooks will receive that and all graduates will receive a gift from our PTA.

### **Graduation Awards**

Our graduation awards will be revealed to students at the graduation practice on May 28. The End of Year Awards Ceremony video will be shared with all Wood Oaks families later in the day on May 28. Those students receiving graduation awards will also be recognized at the graduation ceremony on May 30.

### **Graduation Ceremony on May 30**

Students should arrive at the William Lutz Football Stadium on the west side of the Glenbrook North High School campus no later than 11:30 am. Spectator admission to the stadium will also open at 11:30. Please use the diagram below to assist you with the flow of traffic and parking.



Graduates should be dropped off at the northeast corner of the stadium and will then gather near the south end zone to prepare for the ceremony. Visitors may park anywhere along the north side of the school building or in the southwest parking lot. Spectators use the same entrance as the graduates at the northeast corner of the stadium. Only those wearing the green Wood Oaks graduation wristband will be granted admission to the stadium. Staff members will be checking for wristbands as you enter. Wristbands need to be worn and not carried. Seating is general admission in both the home and visitor bleachers. Please keep your party close together and maintain six feet between your group and all other groups present. **Masks should be worn by everyone present for the entire time while at the football stadium.**

This event is a ceremony honoring the students' completion of school in the elementary years, Kindergarten through grade 8 and an important event in your child's education. Please help to make this a dignified graduation ceremony. We ask that you and your guests refrain from cheering for individual graduates; enthusiastic applause will be welcomed after the entire class has received their diplomas. We want each student's name to be heard by every family member and friend who has come to see that special person graduate. Please allow individual graduates their moment to receive their diploma with dignity, honor, and esteem.

The program for the ceremony will be online and accessible by taking a picture of a QR code with a smartphone. Please ensure someone in your party has a fully charged smartphone for this purpose. QR codes will be available throughout the stadium. Each family will receive a paper copy of the program as a keepsake in the envelope containing the diploma picked up after the ceremony. Graduates will pick up their diplomas on the football field immediately after the ceremony. We expect that the entire ceremony will last approximately one hour. If you have family members who are unable to attend the ceremony at GBN, the event will be

### **Wood Oaks Junior High School**

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livestreamed at <http://www.gbnbroadcasting.com/>. The ceremony will also be available for viewing and downloading in the days following the ceremony. Thank you to the GBN Broadcasting students and staff for their assistance with this service.

Another township middle school will have their graduation ceremony at the football stadium at 3 pm on the same Sunday. Personnel from that school will be arriving and getting set up immediately following our ceremony. We respectfully request that you move your celebration and pictures to an alternate location as efficiently as possible. Thank you.

### **Rain Plan**

In the event of inclement weather, we will move the ceremony inside the Glenbrook North Center for Performing Arts (CPA). We will do our best to make this decision at least 24 hours prior to the ceremony. Should we need to implement this plan, the ceremony will move forward with the graduates seated in the CPA, but no spectators. This is due to the capacity limitations of the indoor venue. Graduates should still be dropped off at 11:30 am, but on the south side of the building at the entrance to the CPA. In this case, we will still be livestreaming the ceremony and all families will need to login to <http://www.gbnbroadcasting.com/> to view the ceremony. Graduates would then be picked up outside the CPA after the ceremony. It is our sincere hope that we do not have to take this route.

### **Thank you**

We are so excited to celebrate this wonderful event with all of you. Thank you so much for your partnership, not just during this pandemic year, but throughout your child's years here at Wood Oaks. The Wood Oaks community is truly like no other, and every staff member feels fortunate to be able to serve such amazing students and families. Best of luck to all of you as you venture into Glenbrook North and your child's high school years.