

 **THOMAS R. PROCTOR HIGH SCHOOL**
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Dear Students and Parents of the Proctor High School Class of 2020,

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with some important information pertaining to this year's senior class. As you know, the *COVID-19 Pandemic* has created a very difficult situation and has brought about unprecedented circumstances, which has led to some very tough decisions. However, despite having more than 600 graduating seniors, we want to do everything we can to safely recognize this wonderful group of students. With that said, the health and well-being of our students, parents, teachers, and staff continues to be the number one priority with every decision that is made. We are taking every precaution to ensure the health and safety of everyone.

Recently, memorabilia items, including a *Proctor Class of 2020* yard sign, were ordered for each member of the senior class. Once these items arrive, teachers, staff, and administration from Proctor High School will be personally delivering them to students' residences. Deliveries should take place at the beginning of June.

Also, the Senior Class Advisors and Senior Class Officers are working on tributes to celebrate the Class of 2020. Currently, they are working on a photo montage to highlight the seniors' plans after graduation. As they continue to create this montage, students and parents will be able to view this special tribute on Proctor High School's website. Upon completion, this collection of photos will ultimately be organized into a video which will be shared on Channel 3, the Utica City School District's Facebook page, the District's YouTube channel, and Proctor High School's website. If senior students would like to be recognized in the montage, please email the student's name, a photo, and their future plan (college, military, work force, etc.) to Mrs. Canalda at kcanalda@uticaschools.org.

In addition, the Senior Class advisors and officers will be sharing details with the Proctor High School community regarding a door decoration project, to help celebrate their school spirit while recognizing the wonderful achievements of the Class of 2020. Students can decorate with Proctor colors, apparel, college memorabilia, and more.

We are also preparing some additional photo montages, as a special tribute to the senior class. These montages include a large collection of photos that have been taken throughout the school year at various sporting events, drama productions, and concerts. As they are released, they will be aired on all of the Utica City School District's media platforms, including the District's Facebook page, Channel 3, Proctor High School's website, and our YouTube channel. To date, the fall and winter sports montages have been released, and will continue to be aired.

As a reminder, on Friday, June 26th, at 4:00 p.m., we will be hosting a virtual graduation ceremony. The ceremony can be viewed on Channel 3. There will also be a link presented on the Utica City School District's Facebook page and website, as well as on Proctor High School's website. I can assure you the virtual ceremony will be done very tastefully, and will include many of the same components as the traditional ceremony. There will be messages to the graduating class from myself, the Superintendent of Schools, the commencement speaker, the valedictorian, the salutatorian, and the senior class officers. Each student will be recognized individually, as their name is announced and their photo is displayed on the screen. In addition, there will also be video messages from Proctor's teachers and staff to the Class of 2020.

Although we're aware that nothing could ever replace the traditional graduation ceremony, we are prepared to make these upcoming events a special tribute to the senior class.

Thank You and Stay Well,



Joshua Gifford
Principal