

Memo

TO: Preble County Superintendents

FROM: Erik Balster, MPH, REHS, RS

CC: Josh Lucas, Suzy Cottingim

DATE: May 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Updated Guidance for High School Graduation in Preble County

As further *Responsible RestartOhio* guidance has been released from the Governor's Office and the Ohio Department of Health on May 14th 2020, Preble County Public Health (PCPH) has had the opportunity to reevaluate the best practices and our recommendations regarding graduation ceremonies. We believe that there more options that can still provide a healthy and safe way for Preble County High Schools to honor their graduates and hold a more comprehensive graduation ceremony in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic. In order to protect the health of the public, including all involved in a potential graduation ceremony, we have developed the following additional guidelines for your planning purposes:

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- A. Household members only
 - a. A set number such as 4 or 5 is recommended
- B. Have a law enforcement (uniformed officer) present for crowd control, parking, and to establish order throughout the perimeter.
- C. Each family unit should get a designated section that is 6FT apart
- D. Outside events (Fields, stadiums, parking lots, etc.)
- E. Graduates should maintain 6FT distance
- F. No congregating on the property
 - a. What students and family do outside of school property is not your responsibility.
- G. Handing diplomas is okay, shaking hands is not.
- H. Masks are recommended.
- I. Advanced Aged Individuals are not recommended to attend.
- J. USE SIGNAGE! (Available on our website: preblecountyhealth.org/coronavirus) or create your own.
- K. Hand washing and/or sanitizer is available at all bathroom facilities.
- L. Consider program handout protocols (gloved individual).
- M. Consider photography
- N. Consider cap toss
- O. Immunocompromised individuals encouraged to stay home.
- P. Consider individual, unique school traditions that may need to be altered.

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Due to the nature of the COVID-19 Pandemic and its associated response we acknowledge that this is a very fluid situation and will try our best to provide each school district with the most up to date guidance as we get it. Thank you all for continuing to work with our department to help ensure a healthy and positive outcome for the class of 2020!

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