

Pitt County Schools State of Education

Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce
May 20, 2020



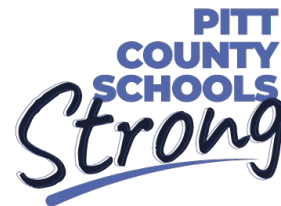
Graduation 2020

 <i>Pitt County Schools 2020 •Tentative• Graduation Schedule</i> 			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Graduating School</i>	<i>Time of Ceremony</i>	<i>Location</i>
Monday, June 1	Pitt Academy	8:00am	South Central High School Football Field
	PCS Early College High School	10:00am	South Central High School Football Field
Tuesday, June 2	RAIN DATE		
Wednesday, June 3	J.H. Rose High School (2)	8:00am and 11:00am	J.H. Rose High School Football Field
	North Pitt High School	10:00am	North Pitt High School Football Field
Thursday, June 4	RAIN DATE		
Friday, June 5	D.H. Conley High School (2)	8:00am and 11:00am	D.H. Conley High School Football Field
	Farmville Central High School	10:00am	Farmville Central High School Football Field
Saturday, June 6	RAIN DATE		
Monday, June 8	South Central High School (2)	8:00am and 11:00am	South Central High School Football Field
	Ayden-Grifton High School	10:00am	Ayden-Grifton High School Football Field
Tuesday, June 9	RAIN DATE		

**This schedule is tentative, contingent upon the guidelines set forth by the NC Governor by the date of the first scheduled ceremony, and is subject to change. Should this plan go forward, the following guidelines will apply: Strict social distancing will be practiced and enforced. Face masks are required to be worn by all graduates and guests. Face masks will be provided for graduates and staff members only. Guests must provide their own face covering. Each graduate will be provided TWO guest tickets. Graduates may only attend ONE ceremony. There are no exceptions to the guidelines. All ceremonies will be live-streamed and available for download. Changes to this schedule will be announced no later than May 28, 2020. Rain delays will be announced as soon as is feasible.*



Our Goal: "To honor the Class of 2020 by providing celebratory graduation ceremonies with safety and equity as priorities." #PittCSGrad2020



Graduation 2020

PCS Graduation 2020 Frequently Asked Questions:

Who decided on this format for graduation? From collaboration, conversation, and surveys, the senior class of 2020, their parents, staff members, and the Pitt County Board of Education, have overwhelmingly indicated that an in-person graduation with an opportunity for each graduate to walk across the stage and hear his/her name called was the priority. The proposed tentative plan is our best attempt to accommodate the wishes of the Senior Class of 2020 and other key stakeholders.

Why are ceremonies held outside this year, and what if there's bad weather? In light of what experts have shared about COVID-19, outdoor venues afford greater space to practice social distancing and are preferred to indoor spaces where there is a higher risk of transmission. Ceremonies have been tentatively scheduled early in the morning to avoid excessive heat and possible afternoon thunderstorms that are typical in our area during the month of June. Tentative rain dates and live stream options are also provided.

Why have two graduation ceremonies been tentatively scheduled for some schools? PCS high schools vary in size. In order to distance our graduates and guests in line with expert guidance (North Carolina Division of Health and Human Services *Wear, Wait, Wash* Protocol), our three largest high schools will need to host a minimum of two graduation ceremonies instead of one. Division of students will be made and communicated at the school level. Students may only attend one graduation ceremony- no exceptions, including student speakers.

Why does the current plan only allow for two guests per graduate? While we understand that graduates have more than two family members and important personal guests, we do not have sufficient space to practice social distancing at our schools if more than two guests attend. As a result, a strict limit on the guest list was necessary. All additional guests can access the ceremony online through our live stream.

Is my graduate required to attend, and is it safe? There is no attendance requirement for seniors. Safety can never be 100% guaranteed for anyone. We will follow the latest NCDHHS guidelines (*Wear, Wait, Wash* Protocol) and practice social distancing as well as sanitize frequently. We urge all potential attendees to make their own personal health decisions regarding attendance and to consider others. Please do not attend if you have been recently exposed to a COVID-19 positive person or you display any symptoms associated with COVID-19 such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, etc.

What if I don't believe in wearing a facemask? In line with current NCDHHS (*Wear, Wait, Wash* Protocol) recommendations, to attend graduation under this tentative plan, students, staff, and guests are required to wear face masks upon exiting their vehicles to attend the graduation and continue to wear these masks through the graduation until they return to their vehicles to depart. Students or staff are not required to remove their masks but will be afforded a brief exception to take an official photograph and/or to speak in an official capacity on stage. Live stream options are available.

What will the actual graduation ceremony look like? In line with the wishes of the Class of 2020, we wish to preserve as many details of what we traditionally value in a graduation ceremony, with some limitations. For example, Junior Marshals will be recognized in a school's program but will not be in attendance. *Pomp and Circumstance* and other music will be played via recording instead of a live orchestra or band. No color guard will precede the National Anthem. Board members and dignitaries will not necessarily be seated on stage. We will do our best to provide a memorable graduation experience for the Class of 2020 through a modified traditional ceremony with safety and equity as priorities.

Parents and Students: Please direct all other questions regarding specific graduation ceremonies to each school.

Enjoy your special day, and don't forget to share your graduation experience with Pitt County Schools, friends, family and community by using **#PittCSGrad2020** on social media platforms. We are Pitt County Schools Strong!

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SCHOOLS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



The purpose of this tool is to assist administrators in making (re)opening decisions regarding K-12 schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to check with state and local health officials and other partners to determine the most appropriate actions while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community.

Should you consider opening?

- ✓ Will reopening be consistent with applicable state and local orders?
- ✓ Is the school ready to protect children and employees at higher risk for severe illness?
- ✓ Are you able to screen students and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

ANY NO



Are recommended health and safety actions in place?

- ✓ Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing and employees wearing a cloth face covering, as feasible
- ✓ Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation
- ✓ Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups and limited mixing between groups, if feasible
- ✓ Train all employees on health and safety protocols

ALL YES

ANY NO



ALL YES

Is ongoing monitoring in place?

- ✓ Develop and implement procedures to check for signs and symptoms of students and employees daily upon arrival, as feasible
- ✓ Encourage anyone who is sick to stay home
- ✓ Plan for if students or employees get sick
- ✓ Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
- ✓ Monitor student and employee absences and have flexible leave policies and practices
- ✓ Be ready to consult with the local health authorities if there are cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area

ALL YES

ANY NO



OPEN AND MONITOR

What about next year?

PITT COUNTY SCHOOLS *Strong*



cdc.gov/coronavirus

State of Education- Pitt County Schools

- Celebrating School Nutrition: Meal Distribution (600K)
- Recognizing and Tackling Equity (or Inequity) Issues
- Preparing and Managing Remote Instruction
- Avoiding the Summer Slide or Melt (Kids Read Now, other programs)
- Planning for Next School Year
 - Reopening plans
 - Missed curriculum
 - Calendar 20-21 (first day of school August 17)
- Looking to the Future
 - Strategic 5-year Plan
 - Portrait of a PCS Learner
 - Workforce Partnerships (Grow Local, Tradesformers, CTE)

