



Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

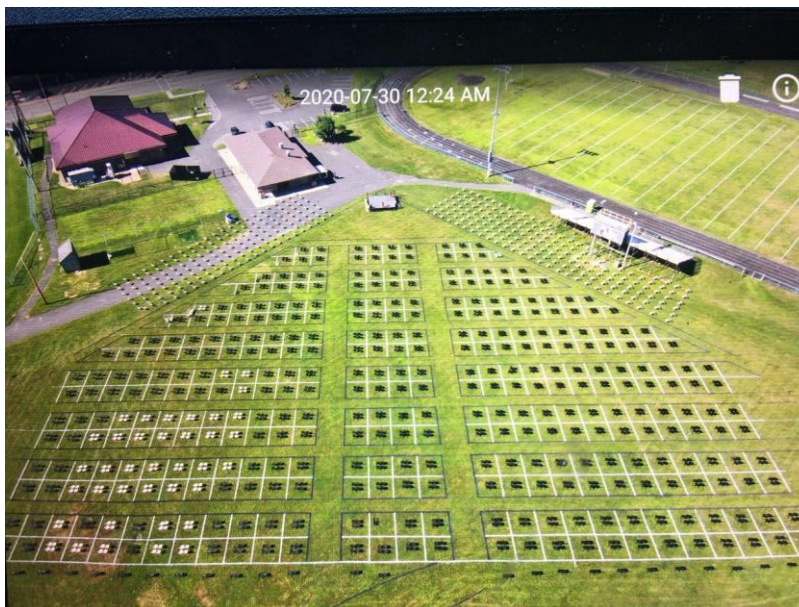
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Greetings to the Students, Parents and Guardians of the Class of 2021,

After waiting patiently for notification from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state released their Graduation Ceremony regulations yesterday. After reviewing the guidance, I am now confident that Monty Tech will be able to hold the Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2021 as scheduled on May 26, 2021!

Please know that, based on the DESE regulations, similar to last year, the ceremony will not look like the traditional graduation ceremony on the football field. Instead, as should be expected, there will be limits due to social distancing that will require us to repeat the type of ceremony that was held in July last year for the Class of 2020. I have included an image below of that graduation set-up which occurred on our soccer fields. You will see that individual families will be required to sit in clusters, and the number of guests from each family will be limited. Nevertheless, even with the adjustments, the ceremony allowed for a joyous celebration of the graduates' accomplishments, and I am fully confident that the ceremony for the Class of 2021 will be the same. We will be issuing the complete Monty Tech guidelines soon, but I wanted to share this important information so everyone is aware that we have a set date for graduation.



On a different topic, I know that many students and families are wondering about the status for the Senior Prom. Once again, we are restricted in what we can do based on state gathering limits. As of yesterday, social gathering limits in the state have been set at 100 people for an indoor event and 150 people for an outdoor event. The Monty Tech Class of 2021 has 340 students which obviously far exceeds the current state regulations. Nevertheless, all students and families should know that the

administration and class advisors are working with the class officers to have a plan for a modified prom in place with hopes that the state limits are adjusted in the next month that would allow us to hold some type of modified Prom in May. Please know that we are aware that some districts have announced Prom plans. However, in almost all of those cases, that school's senior class is significantly smaller than Monty Tech's or they are simply reserving a date in hopes of the limits being adjusted. For now, we will await further directions from the state, and will certainly be in touch with families as soon as possible.

Lastly, I want to assure the students and families of the Class of 2021 that we fully recognize the loss of some important traditions that you have experienced throughout this year. However, in noting those losses, we are committed to making sure that we create opportunities for the Class of 2021 to celebrate and come together as you finish your years at Monty Tech. I look forward to sharing the plans for those events soon.

Be well!

Tom Browne
Principal
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School