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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

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May 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents and Charter School Leaders

FROM: Ryan Stewart, Ed.L.D.

RE: **2020 High School Graduation Guidance**

In response to questions about conducting graduation ceremonies under the current circumstances brought about by the public health crisis, we offer the following guidance as an update to the May 5, 2020 guidance and high school graduation.

For graduation, we strongly encourage virtual ceremonies and celebrations – this is the safest way to commemorate your graduating seniors. Any other commemoration involving school officials should:

- strictly follow current public health orders and guidance issued by the State
- be limited to students and family members who must stay in their vehicles on school grounds, other public areas, and private parking areas used to facilitate any commemoration
- require that anyone on the premises who is not a school official must stay inside a vehicle
- require school officials to:
 - be limited to the minimum number necessary to deliver diplomas
 - wear masks and any other appropriate personal protective equipment
 - take measures to ensure the transfer of diplomas to students is safe and limits contact to the greatest extent practicable
 - disinfect microphones and other shared equipment after each person's use
- require coordination with public safety officials to enforce public health orders during graduation commemorations

Thank you for your continued cooperation in keeping students, families and staff safe.