



DERBY HIGH SCHOOL

75 Chatfield Street • Derby, Connecticut 06418
(203) 736-5032 [phone] • (203) 736-5056 [fax]
www.derbyps.org / @DerbyRedRaider

JENNIFER OLSON
Principal
jolson@derbyps.org

RAY COPLIN
Assistant Principal
rcoplin@derbyps.org

March 29, 2021

Dear «First_Name» and Family:

Congratulations! We are quickly approaching a major milestone in your life and preparing for another chapter in the rich tradition of Derby High School! This year is truly one for the history books and we are committed to providing the Class of 2021 with memorable end of year celebrations, including: Academic Awards Night, Prom, Post-Prom, and Senior Class Night.

These special events have been carefully planned to be as inclusive as possible, while adhering to Connecticut's Sector Rules for indoor and outdoor gatherings. Although we are optimistic that the community health conditions will continue to permit us to come together for these events, these plans are subject to change based on Executive Orders or guidance from the Department of Public Health.

This letter is filled with information about each event to provide answers to questions and allow you an opportunity to plan for the busy days ahead! We are very excited to share these plans with you.

Academic Awards Night - Thursday, May 6, 2021– 6:00 p.m.

This annual awards presentation will be held at Derby High School. We will celebrate our students who earned the honor roll consecutively during the first three marking periods of the 2020-2021 school year, as well as members of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Italian Honor Society, recipients of scholarships and additional awards. We will congratulate them for their hard work and dedication to their studies!

Students who will be recognized will receive an invitation to the event. To ensure social distancing and adherence to Connecticut's Sector Rules for indoor events, the following arrangements have been made to bring students and families together for this celebration:

Event Details:

- Students will be able to invite up to two (2) guests to the Awards Night
- The Award Ceremony will take place in the Alphonso F. Vitello Gymnasium
 - Students, faculty advisors, and speakers will be seated in the gymnasium.

MISSION STATEMENT

Derby High School pursues **Academic** achievement, promotes creative and critical thinking, expects appropriate **Behavior** and fosters responsible **Citizenship**.

“The ABC’s of DHS”

- Due to indoor capacity restrictions, we will use three seating areas for families. Guests of freshman families will be seated in the Commons; Guests of Sophomore and Juniors will be seated in the Martin R. Chromik Memorial Auditorium; Guests of seniors will be seated in the Alphonso F. Vitello Gymnasium.
- The Awards Ceremony will be live streamed and projected on the oversized movie screens in the Commons and the auditorium so guests can watch the event live. The link will be shared in advance so additional guests may watch from home.
- At the conclusion of each award recognition, students and their advisors will process as a group from the gymnasium, to the auditorium, and walk across the stage to be recognized and photographed as a group. They will then process through the Commons for the same recognition and photographs. This will be repeated for all of the individual Honor Societies and individual awards.
- Students will return to the gym for the remainder of the ceremony. At the conclusion of the Awards Night Ceremony, all student honorees will return to the auditorium to walk across the stage for a socially distanced closing ceremony.

Junior-Senior Prom – Friday, May 14, 2021– 5:00 - 10:00 PM

The Junior-Senior Prom will be held outdoors (rain or shine) at The Birchwoods at Oaklane Country Club, 1027 Racebrook Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525. This event will include the following:

- 5:00 - 6:15 PM Pictures and Refreshments in the floral gardens and the Ballroom
- 6:15 - 10:00 PM Outdoor dining and entertainment under lighted tents

Prom Event Details:

- Prom tickets are \$75.00/person and go on sale April 1 during lunch waves.
- For contact tracing purposes, all juniors and seniors attending the prom must complete the enclosed “Prom Guest Permission Form” to identify who they will be bringing to the prom. Please return this no later than April 21, 2021.
- The “Prom Guest Permission” form must be approved prior to purchasing your prom ticket.
- All class dues must be paid prior to purchasing your prom ticket.
- Attendance at school is mandatory on the day of the prom. Students may request to leave school early in preparation for the prom. Students/parents must complete the enclosed permission slip no later than 5/13. Students who are approved to leave early, may dismiss at the conclusion of Period 3 (10:04 AM).
- All prom attendees will be emailed a “Health Screening Form” to complete prior to arrival to the prom.
- Students should arrive at the prom no later than 7:00 p.m.; Students may not leave the prom before 9:30 PM.

- Please note, should health and safety conditions at the time not permit coming together on May 14, 2021 we will do everything we can to work with the venue to select a new date this year.

“All Night” Post Prom – Lake Quassy – Friday, May 14 - Saturday, May 15 2021– 11:00 pm 3:30 am

This exciting PTO sponsored and supervised event is sure to be filled with fun and plenty of activities for all! This year’s event has been custom designed for DHS and includes amusement park rides, basketball, volleyball, cornhole, billiards, water pong, jumbo Jenga, laser maze, painting, burgers, hotdogs, beverages, firepit with S’mores, and dessert! Students who do not attend the prom are welcome to attend the post prom event. Many thanks to our PTO volunteers for planning and hosting this event!

Post-Prom Event Details:

- Students/guests/parents must complete the enclosed “Post Prom Permission Slip” by April 21, 2021.
- Students should arrive at DHS at 11:00 PM.
- The bus will leave DHS by 11:15 PM and will return by 3:30 AM. Students will not be permitted to drive.
- Parents or guardians must be at the school to pick up their students no later than 3:15 AM. *Please be considerate of our volunteers and chaperones and be on time for pick up so everyone can get home after a long, fun-filled evening.*
- The PTO will purchase tickets for DHS Juniors and Seniors to attend the post-prom. A fee will be charged for all other guests payable to Quassy Amusement Park.
- The rain date for this event, if needed, will be **announced** on May 12, 2021 (*subject to date availability at Lake Quassy*).

Senior Class Night – Tuesday, May 25, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

This event for members of the senior class will be held in the Alphonso F. Vitello Gymnasium. This event includes a special dinner, Senior slideshow, and festivities. There is no cost for students to attend this event. A livestream link will be provided for parents and family members to join virtually. The Senior Slideshow will be sent out to all families as a keepsake. Students will need to complete the enclosed RSVP and return by May 3, 2021 for this event so we can plan accordingly.

Last day of classes for Seniors

Thursday, June 3, 2021 is the last full day of classes for seniors. All work must be turned in by 2:00 PM. This includes Edgenuity on-line classes.

Senior Final Exams – exams for seniors will be given:

This year, final course assessments will be formatted in a variety of ways, including a traditional comprehensive final exam, a culminating project, presentation, etc. Each teacher will share their end of course assessment format with students at the start of Q4. (1st Exam 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM; 2nd Exam 9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

Friday, June 4, 2021	Period 1 and 2	Room 109/110
Monday, June 7, 2021	Period 3 and 4	Room 109/110
Tuesday, June 8, 202	Period 5 and 6	Room 109/110
Wednesday, June 9 , 2021	Period 7 and make-ups	Room 109/110

Obligations

In order for seniors to receive their caps and gowns, all financial obligations must be cleared up no later than June 3rd. This includes such things as lost or damaged textbooks, library fines, class dues, activity fees, athletic uniforms, laptops and the like. If there is a question regarding this, please contact the Student Affairs office at 203-736-5032 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.. **Caps and gowns for graduation will be distributed on June 10th to those seniors who have no outstanding obligations.**

Graduation Rehearsals – scheduled as follows:

Thursday, June 10th	DHS Gym	9:00 a.m. – Pizza party & yearbook distribution
Friday, June 11th	DHS Gym	9:00 a.m. – Caps and gowns distributed Parade clap through in front of DMS/DHS
Monday, June 14th	DHS Gym	9:00 a.m. – Tickets for Graduation distributed ice cream social

These rehearsals are mandatory

Derby High School Graduation – Monday, June 14, 2021– 6:00 p.m.

Louis DeFillipo Field – Leo F. Ryan Derby Sports Complex

Our goal for this special evening is to present our graduates to the Derby community in a ceremony that is both festive and distinguished. Students should dress to impress and enjoy this special occasion. Please note high heels will cause damage to the turf field, so they are not permitted -no exceptions. Please see the letter mailed out on March 8, 2021 with detailed information about the graduation format and contingency plans that are in place.

Only Those Students Who Qualify For A Derby High School Diploma May Participate In Graduation

Photography

We have retained the services of Sylvie Mair Photography to capture a photograph of each graduate as he/she receives a diploma. We have found that providing these services for families allows everyone the opportunity to enjoy the event from the audience and minimizes the need to get to the front, which often blocks the view of others. Each graduate will receive a 4 x 6 photo in the mail following the ceremony. Along with the complimentary photo, you will receive an order form for additional pictures.

I trust this letter has provided you with helpful information. On behalf of the faculty, staff and administration, congratulations! We look forward to sharing these joyful events with you and your family!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Olson
Principal



Derby High School End of Year Calendar of Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MAY 3	MAY 4	MAY 5	MAY 6 Academic Award Night 6:00 PM	MAY 7
MAY 10	MAY 11	MAY 12	MAY 13	MAY 14 Jr/Sr Prom 5-10 All Night Post Prom 11PM - 3:30 AM
MAY 17	MAY 18	MAY 19	MAY 20 Field Day Celebration Whole School	MAY 21
MAY 24	MAY 25 Senior Class Night 6:00 PM	MAY 26	MAY 27	MAY 28
MAY 31 Memorial Day No School	JUNE 1	JUNE 2 DHS Band/Chorus Spring Concert 6:00 p.m.	JUNE 3 Last full day of classes for Seniors	JUNE 4 Senior Exam Period 1 & 2
JUNE 7 Senior Exam Period 3 & 4	JUNE 8 Senior Exam Period 5 & 6	JUNE 9 Senior Exam Period 7/Makeups Senior last day of classes including on-line Edgenuity All coursework due by 2:00 p.m.	JUNE 10 Graduation Rehearsal DHS Gym 9:00 - 11:25 Pizza Party! Yearbook Distribution	JUNE 11 Graduation Rehearsal DHS Gym 9:00 - 11:25 Caps & Gowns Distributed Ice Cream Social!
JUNE 14 Graduation Rehearsal - 10:00am DHS Gym CLASS OF 2021 GRADUATION!! Underclassmen Exams Period 7	JUNE 15 Underclassmen Exams Period 1 & 2	JUNE 16 Underclassmen Exams Period 3 & 4	JUNE 17 Underclassmen Exams Period 5 & 6	JUNE 18 Underclassmen Make Up Exams Have a Great Summer!