

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
KENSINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
2051 E. Cumberland Street
Philadelphia, PA 19125



Dr. Jose Lebron, Principal
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Phone: 215-400-7700
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May 26, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On April 9, Dr. Hite shared the news that our school buildings would remain closed for the rest of the school year and that the school-sponsored social events you have been looking forward to all year, such as proms and graduation, would be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though these events cannot move forward in a traditional way, we remain fully committed to safely celebrating the Class of 2020.

On June 9th, at 11:00 am, there will be District-wide virtual graduation with the after-party from 7:00 -8:30 pm on the same day. Customizable and shareable invitations are now available on our <https://www.philasd.org/2020grad/> webpage.

In addition to these plans, individual high schools may choose to host their own virtual graduation or party for their students in June. We at Kensington High School will host a virtual graduation on You-tube on June 10 at 2 pm. Details will be sent to students prior to the event. With safety as our top priority, no in-person events for seniors will be planned by the District or your school until further notice.

As you are also aware, senior activities that you may have paid for in advance have been canceled because of COVID 19. We are committed to providing you with an appropriate refund as soon as it is possible to do so safely for staff and families. The information below outlines the approach that the District is taking regarding the reimbursements:

Refund

Your school's principal is working with our finance department to determine your refund amount. There are four factors that are being considered for the refund:

1. Dues paid - This is the amount of money you have paid for senior dues this year
2. Personalized Items - These are items that are specific to this school year and were to be paid for as part of your senior dues. Kensington High School has purchased caps and gowns, diploma covers, senior pinning items and SAT breakfast items. You will not be refunded monies that went toward those purchases, as that money has already been spent and you will receive those goods (\$75).

3. Students who have stated they wanted a yearbook will be charged \$35, which will be deducted from their refund. Students who have not expressed interest will not be charged.
4. Events - Dues were also collected for events that are no longer happening due to COVID 19. Examples of these events are prom, graduation venues and senior luncheons. You will receive a refund for all parts of dues that were collected for these events.

As noted above, you should still expect to receive items personalized for the Class of 2020, have the option to receive non-personalized items, and receive a partial refund on your dues for items and events not provided. The exact dollar amount and how it was calculated will be included with your refund when you receive it.

Format

Dues will be repaid with a check from your school. We have worked with Wells Fargo Bank to ensure that any family who wishes to cash the refund check will be able to do so at a Wells Fargo branch, without any service charge. Refunds will be mailed to your address that is on file. If you are worried that this address is incorrect, please contact Ms. Erickson at 814-408- 6720 or verickson@philasd.org to submit a change of address form.

Timing

Since the reimbursement checks will be generated by each school, they cannot be issued until the Mayor and Governor have declared it safe for non-essential travel and our buildings are reopened to staff. We will inform you as soon as that occurs. If you have questions and/or concerns, you can contact Ms. Erickson at 814-408- 6720 or verickson@philasd.org. We thank you for your understanding and look forward to virtually celebrating our seniors in June.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jose Lebron
Principal