



May 20, 2024

Dear Families of 8th Grade Students:

I wanted to put in a formal letter information I alluded to in my weekly newsletters. There are many things you need to know about the 8th grade recognition ceremony in terms of expectations and logistics. Please consult this entire letter to make sure all understand the expectations. If any items from this letter change in the course of the next three weeks, I will be sure to provide updates.

### **Date/Time**

On ***Monday, Friday, June 14, 2024, at 8:45 am in the back lot***, we are conducting the ceremony. We ask a few things. Please abide by the following recommendations as our space is limited. Students must be present at the start of the school day in order to participate. Please see more information below.

### **Family Attendance and Parking**

- Each family is allowed **4 guests**. ***Guests should bring their own chairs or be prepared to stand/sit in the back fields behind the students.*** Students will be processing in and sitting with their peers.
- Most of the back lot will be blocked off to ensure the safety of our students. Unfortunately, that means the guests should park in the front lot and walk outside to the back of the school. We will not be able to accommodate families walking through the building during the school day.
- We also ask (where possible) that family members carpool in the same car as our parking is very limited.
- We will be setting up, up until 8:45. Families are free to arrive by 8:30, but please note we will still be testing the audio and arranging seats for the students.

- Students will be arranged and seated by homeroom. They will sit alphabetically with that class.
- We strongly encourage the students to bring water with them, whether a stainless steel bottle of water or disposable bottle. If we are inside or outside, it would be advantage for our students to be hydrated.
- Following the ceremony, students will be escorted back to class by their teachers to conclude the remaining class festivities...such as yearbook signing, class awards, and a social gathering on this day with their peers. ***These festivities are not open to families, just our 8th grade students.***
- Following the ceremony, we ask that families make their way off campus for the safety and security of our building.
- ***We strongly request that parents NOT sign their children out of school after the ceremony, but allow us to safely dismiss at the end of the school day normally. We have approximately 200 8th graders. The office would have to sign out each student and we cannot safely accommodate for the sign out of that large number of students at one time. Also, that would take away from their festivities.***

### **Expectations and Eligibility:**

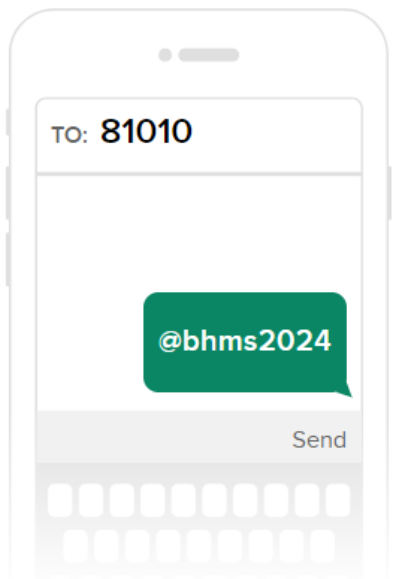
- Students are expected to behave with true decorum, representative of the qualities of a Bulldog. Students will respect the ceremony and each person who has their name announced. We refuse to have any student disparage anyone during this ceremony or be inappropriate during the recognition. This is a dignified ceremony that celebrates the hard work of many. Please speak with your child to make sure they know the expectations. The students who have difficulty respecting the ceremony or others will be directed back into the building so as not to detract from the recognition of others.
- A student who is ***failing 2 out of the 7 classes*** for the year will be allowed to participate in the ceremony but will not receive a recognition certificate until successful completion of course material or summer credit recovery.
- After recognition, the following conditions would render a student in-eligible for the post recognition celebration:
  - Any student accumulating five or more suspensions.
  - Any student who has accumulated 15 or more unexcused absences without attending the appropriate number of Saturday School sessions, OR more than 30 days of absence regardless of reason.
  - Any student failing 2 or more subjects at the end of the school year.
  - Any student not present in school for the recognition ceremony earlier that morning.

- ***If a student is not here at 8am on the morning June 14, 2024 Bunker Hill unfortunately cannot accommodate them in the ceremony. If they choose to come, we request that they stay for the duration of the day.***

### **Rain or Other Weather Accommodations:**

If the weather does not permit us to be outside, we will host our ceremony in the gymnasium on the same day, June 14, 2024. As space is limited due to capacity limitations and restrictions, we may only permit a certain number of guests. In this situation, each student will be afforded the opportunity for ***two guests to attend the ceremony. Please see below how this will work.***

- On Monday June 10, 2024, each student will receive an envelope containing two tickets to be used if it rains on the day of the ceremony.
- In order to get into the ceremony, guests will only be permitted to the event if they have those specific tickets. You would then enter through the front of the building in this scenario
- If we have to move inside, I will communicate this by 7:30 am via the Remind App feature.
- If you are not signed up for Remind, please see below. Text the message @bhms2024 to the number 81010



If you have any questions, please consider emailing/calling me or our main office secretaries...Mrs. Kern ([skern@wtps.org](mailto:skern@wtps.org)) or Mrs. Garozzo ([lgarozzo@wtps.org](mailto:lgarozzo@wtps.org))

Have a good rest of the week Bulldog Families!

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike D'Ostilio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mike" being more prominent and the last name "D'Ostilio" written in a more compact, stylized manner.

Mike D'Ostilio