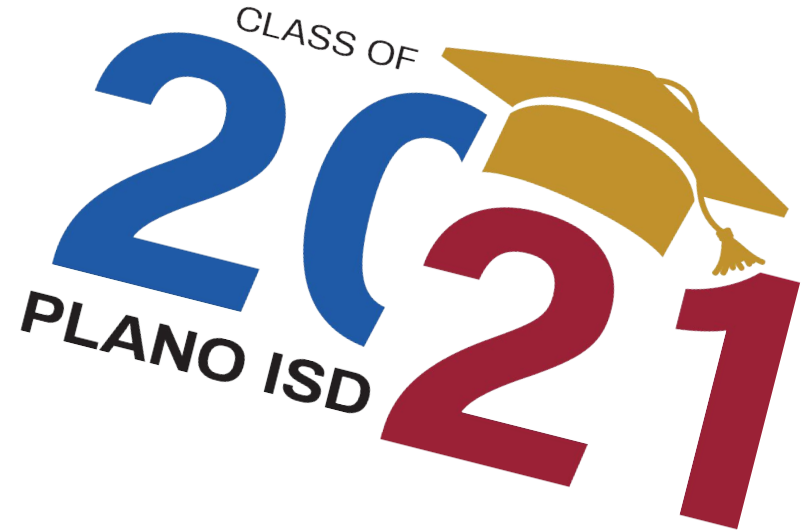
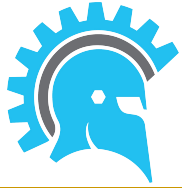


2021 In-Person Graduation Plan



March 23, 2021



Original Graduation Plan

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

Without knowing what effects COVID-19 would still have on large events in June 2021, early graduation planning efforts proceeded with the hopes that a traditional ceremony would be possible.

This communication, that included a disclaimer, was shared via the Plano ISD graduation webpage in fall 2020.

Senior High School Graduation Ceremonies

Due to COVID-19, this schedule/plan could change and social distancing protocols may be implemented.

Provided on this page is information about the graduation ceremony for the senior high schools. This information will be updated as more details are confirmed, so please check back.

Location: The Ford Center at The Star in Frisco

Date: Saturday, June 5

Time:

9:30 a.m. Plano West Senior High School

2:30 p.m. Plano Senior High School

7:30 p.m. Plano East Senior High School

Plano ISD Academy High School Graduation Ceremony

Due to COVID-19, this schedule/plan could change and social distancing protocols may be implemented.

Provided on this page is information about the graduation ceremony for the Plano ISD Academy High School. This information will be updated as details are confirmed, so please check back. More information (such as cap and gown ordering) is available on the [school web page](#).

Location: Robbie & Lynore Robinson Fine Arts Center - Plano ISD

Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021

Time: 2 p.m.

Updated Plan

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

- We worked with our campus principals and two focus groups, one with students and one with parents, representing the four graduating classes as a new graduation plan was created to reflect current safety practices
- We shared the following plan, which features graduations over two days as follows:



- All ceremonies to be held at Clark Stadium
- Dates & Times:
 - Academy HS: Friday, June 4 at 8:30 a.m.
 - Plano Senior: Friday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m.
 - Plano West: Saturday, June 5 at 8:30 a.m.
 - Plano East: Saturday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m.
- Guest tickets per student: 4

Rain Dates:
June 6 & 7

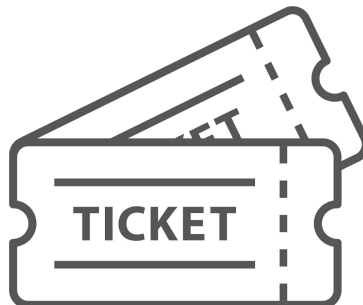
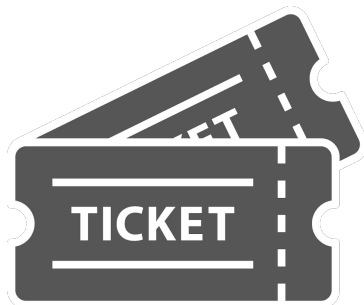
Plan Considerations

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

- **Venue Capacity & Tickets:**

- Using a district facility offers some flexibility on capacity and general event operations - The Star is currently operating at a 30% capacity per NFL
- Clark Stadium's capacity allows guests to be seated in pods of four in the stands while still being distanced
- All ceremonies will be live streamed and recorded as options for those who can't attend or don't feel comfortable attending



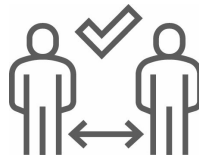
Plan Considerations

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

- **Safety:**

- Outdoor venues currently offer a safer option for large group gatherings
- Graduate chairs, participants on stage and guests will be socially distanced
- Students, guests and staff will be required to wear masks
- Plano ISD stadium bag policy will be implemented for the ceremonies
- Gates open 90 minutes prior to the start of the senior high school ceremonies to reduce the size of crowds waiting to enter (60 minutes for Academy HS)

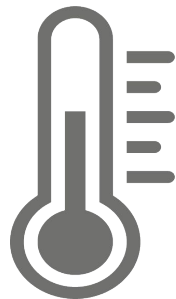


Plan Considerations

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

- **Possible weather issues (e.g., heat, rain, lightning, etc.):**
 - To account for these concerns, all ceremonies are being held during times of the day that are typically cooler and rain dates will be communicated up front to families along with the planned ceremony dates and times (June 6 & 7)



Time Frame	8:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	7:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.	9:30 p.m.
Avg. Temperatures June 5 in Plano	73°	76°	78°	83°	80°	77°
June 5, 2020	81°	84°	86°	87°	83°	80°
June 5, 2019	78°	81°	84°	80°	75°	74°
June 5, 2018	76°	78°	79°	84°	78°	75°
June 5, 2017	72°	73°	74°	79°	75°	74°



On average, there is a 37% chance of rain in Plano throughout the day on June 5.

Vetting the New Plan

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

- The student and parent focus groups included written survey feedback along with verbal discussions
- This plan was shared for feedback with campus administrators



2021 Plano ISD Graduation Event Survey - PTSA Focus Group

Your answers to the following questions will help the district in its planning efforts for this year's ceremonies.



2021 Plano ISD Graduation Event Survey - Student Focus Group

Your answers to the following questions will help the district in its planning efforts for this year's ceremonies.

Focus Group Feedback

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

89%

of participants said **YES** when asked if they were satisfied with the experience the new plan should provide them and their families? The remaining 11% answered maybe.

83%

of participants said **YES** when asked if rain days are needed, would they have the ability to attend the makeup ceremony? The remaining 17% answered maybe.

Focus Group Feedback

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

Student Survey Response Highlights:

Question: What are your initial thoughts on this plan?

- I think it sounds good as long as it's socially distanced and safe!
- I love it! I think it upholds the covid guidelines well and still lets family and students hold onto the best parts of a traditional graduation.
- I think that the current plan is good. I'm glad that we will have a somewhat "normal" graduation.
- Before coming to the meeting, this is what I pictured as the most ideal plan for graduation.

Question: What do you think are the pros of this plan?

- Outdoors but in-person, safe yet still a "legitimate" graduation experience
- 4 guest tickets (good number for family), livestream/recorded video (good for extended family so they don't have to fly in)
- It'll be outside! And that's good. And theoretically, we'll all be distanced and wearing masks, and that's good too.
- We are able to have a real graduation

Focus Group Feedback

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

Student Survey Response Highlights:

Question: What do you think are the cons of this plan?

- I think 4 tickets is a little low, but if that is what you have to do to keep the crowd socially distant, then I understand.
- Weather. Other than rain, i'm also concerned with the summer heat.
- Making sure people stay within their pods during the course of the graduation.
- Enforcement's going to be really hard as it is. How will we enforce wearing masks and keeping a distance?

Question: Please tell us what elements of a traditional ceremony are most important to you?

- Walking up to get my diploma, taking photos (no mask preferably), seeing my peers, speeches from students
- Bringing family, speeches, graduating with whole class
- Cap toss
- Pictures for my family
- Just watching a kid get a piece of paper is the most important thing. Everyone deserves to have that moment, I think.

Focus Group Feedback

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

Parent Survey Response Highlights:

Question: What are your initial thoughts on this plan?

- I like this plan a lot. I think it gives families the opportunity to be in-person and to have the most at risk to be able to live stream the event. All can participate.
- Sounds good to me. I like the outdoor option.
- I like it. The weather worries me. The heat more than the rain. I hope that kids are allowed to wear shorts under their graduation gowns.

Question: What do you think are the pros of this plan?

- Allows for both in-person and virtual options
- Safety and as close to normal as we can get at this time
- Being outdoors is the right way to go at this point
- Allows all students to graduate together to celebrate each other.
- Students and families get to celebrate this achievement.

Focus Group Feedback

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

Parent Survey Response Highlights:

Question: What do you think are the cons of this plan?

- Social distancing the guests while going to seats
- Restrictions on number of guests for larger families
- Heat! And weather in general.
- The stadium won't be as comfortable for some (especially older guests)
- Honestly, I'm so happy we get a ceremony that right now I cannot see the cons.

Question: Please tell us what elements of a traditional ceremony are most important to you?

- Students walking across stage, name being called, photos, video
- Pictures from professional photographer
- Large video screen so we can see; streaming so that people can see at home
- Speeches from the students. Well wishes from administration.
- Preferably pictures without a mask
- Photos!

Alternate Schedule

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

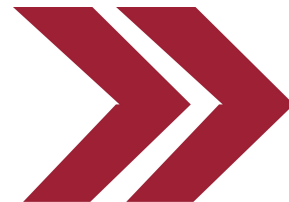
- After presenting these initial ideas, we received additional feedback expressing concerns about hosting an event during the daytime on a weekday, as well as concerns related to daytime temperatures
- A possible alternate schedule to help mitigate those concerns would be hosting the event over three days as follows:
 - Plano Senior: Thursday, June 3 at 7:30 p.m.
 - Plano West: Friday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m.
 - Academy HS: Saturday, June 5 at 8:30 a.m.
 - Plano East: Saturday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m.

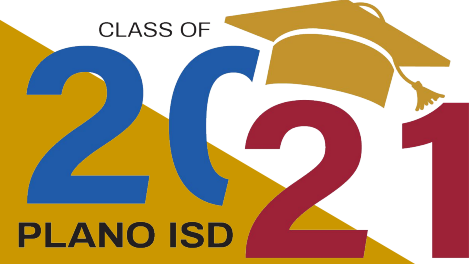
Next Steps

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

UPDATE

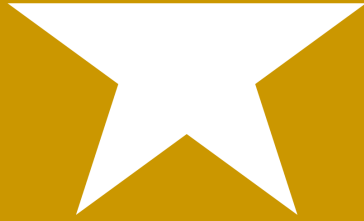
- Finalize the ceremony dates and times
- Share the final plan with campus administrators
- Communicate the updated plan to seniors and their families
- Finalize needed guidelines for ceremony programming
 - Areas to consider include:
 - Processional/recessional
 - Photos (mask protocol)
 - Student lineup at the stage
 - Presentation of diploma covers





PROM UPDATE

PLANO ISD PROUD



Questions?