

**WHITEHALL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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Whitehall – Birthplace of the U. S. Navy – [www.railroaders.net](http://www.railroaders.net)

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To the Whitehall Community-

May 29, 2020

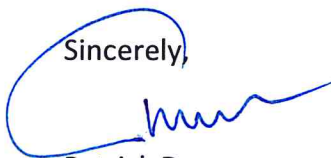
I want to reiterate that the district has identified June 26<sup>th</sup> as our graduation date, that date has not changed.

Currently, the Governor's Current Executive order has closed schools and continues to preclude gatherings of larger than 10 people. As a result, the district remains in a holding pattern with graduation as a school district cannot knowingly and willingly violate a law to include Governors Executive orders. Additionally, based on numerous conversations with the Washington County Department of Health, we have been informed that they cannot support an in-person graduation for the same reasons. Lastly, because of the Executive Order that is in place, the Districts insurance carrier would not cover the district in the event of injury, or illness at an in-person ceremony.

We **HOPE** that between now and June 26<sup>th</sup> the Governors office will lift components of the Executive Order that will allow the School to host an in-person and appropriately socially distanced graduation ceremony as this is what ALL OF US WANT for our students. The administrative team, in coordination with the senior class advisors and the technology department have created plans for **BOTH** a Virtual Graduation as well as an In-Person socially distanced graduation. As a district, we will not make a final decision on the type of ceremony until shortly before the scheduled date to provide as much time as possible to be given approval for an in-person event.

Rest assured, we are working tirelessly to ensure that our Senior Class gets the recognition that they deserve and hope that the Governor's office provides schools with the latitude to make the right decision for our students. We hope, nothing more than to SEE OUR SENIORS in-person on Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,



Patrick Dee  
Superintendent of Schools