

Dear Parents and Guardians of the Class of 2022,

I hope your child's senior year is going well. This year we welcomed 984 seniors in the Class of 2022 and wish them an exciting and memorable end to their senior year. Commencement for the Class of 2022 is just around the corner, so we are already planning to make it the best possible experience for our graduating seniors and their families.

As you may be aware, New Trier for many years held its commencement ceremony at Northwestern University in Welsh-Ryan Arena and then transitioned to the Sears Centre, in Hoffman Estates, recently renamed *NOW Arena*. Last year, we held our ceremony outdoors at Soldier Field in downtown Chicago. This was a one-time opportunity available only last year due to COVID restrictions at the time. This year and for future ceremonies we will be back at the NOW Arena.

Our experience with the 2017 and 2018 Commencement Ceremony at the NOW Arena was overwhelmingly positive. The seating capacity allows for eight guests per family compared to five guests maximum at Northwestern, and parking and traffic management is much easier. Families said they appreciated amenities including air conditioning, comfortable and plentiful seating, ADA support staff, a Jumbotron that projected each student receiving their diploma, increased security, and concessions.

The one area that we recognize is an inconvenience is the distance. While we understand that going to Hoffman Estates will require more travel time for our families and staff, we are confident the venue is our best possible option and is more than accommodating for our needs.

The ceremony is scheduled for **Sunday, May 29 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.** Guests and students may enter the arena at 2:00 p.m. The Grad Party check-in begins at 10:45 p.m., so students will have plenty of time between the ceremony and the party to spend with their families and friends. We will share more details about commencement in the spring, and you can keep up to date through our [Commencement 2022 web page](#).

If you have any questions, please contact me. We are excited to share all of our incoming seniors' milestones with you over the remainder of this school year.

Sincerely,

Denise Dubravec

Principal, Winnetka Campus