

Madison City Schools Graduation FAQs

1. What are the social distancing guidelines that school systems must follow for graduation ceremonies?
 - a. Schools systems have been directed to reference the [ADPH Guidelines for Places of Worship](#) to follow appropriate social distancing procedures for graduation ceremonies.
2. What are the graduation dates and times?
 - a. James Clemens graduation will be held on May 26 at 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm.
 - b. Bob Jones graduation will be held on May 27 at 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm.
 - c. Graduation times are being pushed back to better accommodate for work schedules, etc.
3. Why can't we have graduation at the VBC with the entire graduating class and 10 tickets per graduate?
 - a. While the VBC has accommodated our graduation sizes well in the past, COVID-19 posed restrictions limiting graduate and guest seating. The social distancing guidelines conveyed to us for June 29 indicated floor seating could not accommodate the full graduating class of each school and that guest tickets would also be greatly reduced.
 - b. Moving the event to Madison City Stadium gives MCS more control over event offerings and more space to work with.
4. Are social distancing guidelines being followed?
 - a. Yes. Social distancing guidelines will be followed.
 - i. Graduates will be seated six feet apart on the field.
 - ii. Families should sit on one row in the designated area and six feet apart from other guests. No more than two families per row.
 - iii. Attendees should observe the *Closed Row* and *Accessible Seating* signs.
 - iv. Individuals with compromised immune systems should not attend graduation ceremonies.
 - v. Individuals should not attend graduation ceremonies if they have a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19.
 - vi. Graduates and attendees should return to vehicles at the conclusion of the graduation ceremonies.
 - vii. Staff assisting graduates and attendees will wear masks.
 - viii. Temperatures of staff and graduates will be checked prior to the ceremony.
5. Why is graduation moved from June 29?
 - a. June 29 was listed as a tentative date for graduation that was subject to change due to the COVID-19 situation.
 - b. The future of the COVID-19 situation is still unknown. Madison City Schools is striving to provide a graduation ceremony for seniors while we are in a timeframe where social distancing guidelines allow for graduation ceremonies.

6. What is the expectation with masks?
 - a. Attendees are encouraged to wear a mask at least until seated.
 - b. Graduates are required to wear a mask from the time they arrive at the stadium until the processional begins. Once the processional begins, graduates will be spaced six feet apart to abide by the social distancing guidelines. Graduates may wear their mask throughout the entire ceremony if they would prefer.
 - c. Graduates will be provided a mask for the graduation ceremony.
7. Will there be a graduation rehearsal?
 - a. No. Graduates will be asked to arrive one hour prior to the start of their graduation time and will be given instructions for the ceremony at that time.
8. How can graduates view both graduation ceremonies?
 - a. All graduation ceremonies will be live-streamed.
 - b. A videographer will video both ceremonies to provide each graduate with a copy of a complete graduation ceremony.
9. How do we know which graduation ceremony to attend?
 - a. May 26
 - i. 4:00 pm Ceremony
 1. James Clemens - students with the last name A - J
 - ii. 7:30 pm Ceremony
 1. James Clemens - students with the last name K - Z
 - b. May 27
 - i. 4:00 pm Ceremony
 1. Bob Jones - students with the last name A - K
 - ii. 7:30 pm Ceremony
 1. Bob Jones - students with the last name L - Z
10. What happens if a ceremony is cancelled due to rain?
 - a. Rain dates are May 28 and May 29.
11. Will concession stands be open during graduation?
 - a. Concession stands will not be open during graduation.
 - b. Bottled water will be made available for guests attending the graduation ceremonies.
12. Why wasn't a different large venue (like a stadium) considered?
 - a. Other venues were considered to include the Trash Panda's stadium. However, a different venue was not selected because either the venue was not available to the public per the COVID-19 health order or the seating capacity was not larger than the MCS stadium.