

# Class of 2020 – Graduation Packet

Dear Graduate & Parent/Guardian – Class of 2020:

Thank you for sharing your student with us and for making Mingus Union High School a part of your family's history. Long after your student has moved on, their face will still grace our yearbooks and their stories will still live on in our hearts. Thank you – again, thank you.

Graduation from high school is a ceremony that comes once in a lifetime. Parents, relatives, and (most importantly!) the graduates deserve a dignified and memorable ceremony. Mingus Union High School staff prides themselves on conducting a formal graduation ceremony; it's our chance to honor our graduates and give them a proper farewell. We ask that our graduates and guests follow our instructions for graduation week and the ceremony. We hope our graduation ceremony successfully demonstrates the great pride that we have in our graduates, our staff, and the Verde Valley.

As our seniors embark on their journeys beyond high school, we ask them to remember that they are and will always be Marauders and the Navy Narwhals of 2020!

I look forward to sharing this very special evening with our staff, graduates, and their loved ones.

Sincerely,



Genie Gee  
Principal

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Please read this packet, sign and return the below form to the Bookstore by May 15th, 2020

## Graduation Agreement

By signing below, I am agreeing to the expectations that are set for me regarding graduation. I understand that the graduation ceremony is a serious and dignified event. I understand that if I fail to follow expectations and guidelines for appropriate behavior and dress I will be removed from the ceremony.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
ID#

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Current Mailing Address:**

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***This form must be signed and returned to the Bookstore no later than May 15th, 2020, in order to participate in the Graduation Ceremony.***

## MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PREPARATION FOR GRADUATION

<b>March</b>	24	8:20am Graduation Meeting and Senior Sessions – Auditorium (*Mandatory*)
	24	Cap and Gown Delivery during lunch in the small gym
<b>April</b>	14	Graduation tickets available in the HS Office (2 tickets per graduate)
<b>May</b>	6	10:00am (Advisory) – Graduation Meeting – Auditorium (*Mandatory*)
	14	Final Exams for Seniors – Periods 1, 3, 5
	15	Final Exams for Seniors – Periods 2, 4, 6
	18	8:20am Grad Walks (Cap and Gown) at local elementary schools
	18	6:00pm - Senior Honors Event – Auditorium
	19	Senior Trip – More Info to Come! ☺
	20	College Signing Day and Senior Sunset – More Info to Come! ☺
	22	8:00am Graduation Practice – Gym (*Mandatory*)
	22	6:00 pm *Graduates meet in Gym to line up* (Graduation begins 7:00 pm)

### Graduation Information and Expectations

**Academic and Account Standing** – It is important that each student complete all necessary coursework required for graduation as determined by the Arizona Department of Education and Mingus Union High School. If you have any questions about graduation requirements or your student's status, please contact the Counseling Office at 928-634-7531 ext. 1402. All student account fees must be paid and all senior forms must be submitted by May 15th.

**Cap and Gown** - Order your cap, gown, and tassel by going to our website [www.mingusunion.com](http://www.mingusunion.com) click on the parent or student tab, then senior graduation store. You may also call 1-480-659-2040 to place an order. Caps and gowns may be picked up in the bookstore once order and payment are completed.

**Graduate Dress Code** - Our graduation ceremony is an important community tradition and a final learning experience for our proud students; our dress code reflects that.

- Men: dress shirt, pants/slacks, clean shoes (dress shoes are preferred and ties are optional)
- Ladies: dress, skirt, or dress pants/slacks – be careful with heel height, it's a long walk and we don't want you falling on your special night!
- No shorts, t-shirts, jeans, or flip-flops – no extremely informal attire
- No decoration on the graduation gown. No leis, boas, etc. – only school approved medals/cords are allowed.
- Graduation caps may be decorated, but the decoration must lay flat. No 3D or decorations hanging off the side. And decoration which would draw undue or negative attention is not permitted.

**Appropriate Behavior** - Senior pranks will not be tolerated. If your child participates in a senior prank and/or demonstrates behavior that is not school appropriate, he or she will forfeit the privilege of participating in senior week activities and/or walking at Graduation. If damage is caused to the school, no matter how little, law enforcement will be involved. Any behavior that draws attention away from the speakers, performers, or individual graduates being honored, or detracts from the dignity of the ceremony itself will result in those involved being removed from the ceremony.

We ask our proud parents to please respect all of the graduates by remaining seated during the ceremony. **Walking around on the field, engaging in conversations, or entering the student seating area for photographs is unfairly disruptive.** Specific areas appropriate for photography will be demarcated. **Please do not enter the graduates' seating area.**

**Location** - Graduation will be held on the Mingus Union High School football field, weather permitting. In order to prevent damaging our artificial turf, streamers, confetti, silly string, etc. will not be allowed.

**Diplomas** - Diplomas will not be inside the red cover at graduation and will not be mailed. Graduates may pick up their diplomas immediately after graduation in the Cafeteria or at the high school office throughout the summer (8am – 3pm) beginning May 26th.

**Mandatory Graduation Meetings and Practice** – Mandatory Graduation Meetings will take place on March 24<sup>th</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup> (see calendar dates above). Graduation rehearsal is mandatory for all seniors on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8am. Students who do not attend graduation rehearsal will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony. If you have any questions, please contact the front office (Bridget Hillman) at 649-4386.

**Graduation Seating** - There is limited reserved on-field seating and handicapped seating. Each graduate will receive **two tickets (students need to pick up the tickets at the High School Office beginning April 14<sup>TH</sup> through May 15<sup>TH</sup>)** for the reserved on-field seating. A family may opt not to use these tickets and sit in the stands. Students are encouraged to turn in unused tickets or let us know they will not need them. Seating on the field will be closed once the graduates have entered the football stadium.

The north football gates will open at **5:00 pm, Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**, for all admissions to the graduation ceremony. Open seating in the bleacher area and the reserved on-field area (**with ticket**) is on a first come, first served basis, **with no saving of seats**. Admission to the handicapped seating will require that the person present their handicapped card/identification and that **only one other person accompany them**. Individuals who require special assistance can be dropped off at the gate and a cart will take them to the seating area. This combination of open and reserved seating allows each family to make an individual choice where to enjoy the ceremony without limiting admission to graduation.

**Parking** - Parking at the high school is limited – dropping off graduates early and carpooling is encouraged. Handicapped parking is available in the east parking lot by the cafeteria and is strictly monitored to assist those needing these spaces. Additional parking is available in the west lot, across Camino Real from the west lot, Fry's parking lot, and in the Faith Lutheran Church parking lot. Transportation (bus shuttles) to the school will be provided from these latter two parking areas both to the ceremony and back to the parking areas at the end of the ceremony.

**In Case of Rain** - In the event of inclement weather, we may have to move the ceremony inside; we will let you know by 5:00pm the day of graduation. We will contact families via our School Messenger\* phone service and also have a public service announcement on KYBC AM 1600, KVRD FM 105.7, KKLD FM 95.9, KVNA FM 100.1 and KQST FM 102.9.

**Operation Graduation** – Operation Graduation is an annual event hosted at the Rec Center for our graduates to provide a safe and fun celebration for the Class of 2020. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Gretchen Groseta at [ggroseta@gmail.com](mailto:ggroseta@gmail.com) or Lisa Gray at [lisagrays@azdes.gov](mailto:lisagrays@azdes.gov).

