April 25, 2020

Dear Cathedral Senior Parents,

At this extraordinary time of pandemic when instruction for all students has shifted to online distance learning and normal operation of school on campus is not possible for the safety of students, faculty and staff, I am writing to update you on matters which pertain specifically to seniors. While matters are very fluid with almost daily changes, the following provides the best update I am able to provide at this time concerning important matters specifically for senior families.

**Baccalaureate Mass/Graduation**

If permitted by Los Angeles City and County Health officials and Archbishop Gomez our sincere desire is to hold a combined Baccalaureate Mass/Graduation Ceremony for all seniors, with a limited number of family members, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels on **Friday, July 17 at 7:00pm**. If we are allowed to proceed, seating will be safely distanced according to public health guidelines, while also being live-streamed so additional family and friends can enjoy the Mass/Graduation safely from home.

The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels is the largest church in the United States and we hope a safe and joyful event may be possible with proper distancing and other safeguards. At this time, it is too early to know how many tickets each graduate will be provided. However, graduation tickets will be free and available after all tuition and fees are paid in full and if officials give permission for public events to occur in Los Angeles. More details will be forthcoming if we are allowed to proceed as desired for the Class of 2020.

**Tuition, Fees & Financial Update**

The last tuition payment for seniors is due Friday, May 1st as stated in our tuition contract. All tuition and fees must be paid in full for seniors to receive their last report card in June, final transcript for college, diploma and graduation tickets (if possible). While seniors will NOT be taking Final Exams to end the semester, seniors are to continue with their classes as we have been doing online until Friday, May 22. Due to not having Final Exams the last day of school for seniors will be Friday, May 22.

**Refund for Disneyland Grad Nite**

Disneyland is closed and Grad Nite will not be held for the Class of 2020. Seniors who paid for Grad Nite will receive a full refund after Cathedral High School receives the refund from Disneyland. However, Disneyland is not expected to process any refunds for another 6-8 weeks. Please know parents that have a zero balance on their son's tuition account will receive a full refund check from Cathedral for the Grad Nite ticket most likely in June after Cathedral is refunded from Disneyland.
Casino Night Event Cancelled/Fee
Although not reflected on your May tuition statement due to our deadline in mid-April to mail the May tuition envelopes to families, Cathedral is NOT charging parents the $60 ticket fee for the April 4th Casino Night. Cathedral will apply a $60 credit to all families that paid for Casino Night. Parents that did not pay for Casino Night will NOT be billed for this event.

Scholarship Walk-A-Thon Fee
While our March 18th Scholarship Walk-A-Thon did not take place due to the onset of the pandemic throughout our current school year scholarships and financial aid had already been awarded to many Cathedral students since we budgeted income from all students for this important spring semester fundraiser. While a significant number of parents met their $100 goal in advance of the walk-a-thon, many parents did not. To allow the school to continue to provide already budgeted funds for tuition for the remainder of this year and incurred expenses all parents are still responsible for the $100 Walk-A-Thon Fee. The walk-a-thon t-shirts that were made for our March 18th event can still be given to seniors as a souvenir for this extraordinary semester.

Parent Service Hours
Cathedral appreciates the many hours of parent service and donation of products that allows the school to serve the boys so well and provide for our many events. Each year all families are required to complete 20 Parent Service Hours. Due to the pandemic Cathedral will NOT be charging parents for hours not completed this semester. All parents must have completed at least 10 hours by Christmas (first semester) and are financially responsible for any of those hours not completed and were billed for in February, but no parent will be charged for unfilled hours for this semester. The school sincerely appreciates senior parents who completed all 20 Parent Service Hours for the year, but given current circumstances will NOT be billing parents for hours not completed this semester.

AP Test Fees
Many Cathedral seniors are enrolled in one or more Advanced Placement (AP) classes with online testing scheduled from May 11th thru May 22nd. Due to the pandemic students will take their AP Test online at home. This year, Cathedral is giving AP students the option of not taking their AP Test(s). The College Board charges Cathedral their test fee for each AP exam the student logs onto the day of the test. Students are responsible for paying the fee for each exam he attempts to complete. If a senior decides NOT to take an AP exam he will NOT be charged.

If a senior paid for an AP Test but decides NOT to take the exam he will receive a refund from Cathedral. However, the refund will have to wait until Cathedral receives notification from the College Board. Notification may not come to Cathedral until July after all tests and make-up days have concluded for AP students in the United States. If a senior has a zero balance on his Cathedral tuition account, the school will provide a check for a full refund for each AP Test not taken. However, if any balance remains on the senior’s tuition account the refund will be provided only after the balance on the tuition account is paid in full. Please know Cathedral can only provide possible refund checks after Cathedral receives payment from the College Board. When this transfer of funds will take place is not known at this time.
Class of 2020 Cathedral Lawn Signs
The teachers and administration of Cathedral are very proud of the Class of 2020 and share in the disappointment of not being able to provide all the events and moments on campus to conclude their senior year as planned. However, as a sign of our pride and appreciation for the Class of 2020 the school will be providing a free Cathedral High School Congratulations Class of 2020 lawn sign to all seniors. While the lawn signs are not available yet, we anticipate we will distribute them after all tuition and fees are paid in full and seniors have completed their last class on Friday, May 22nd. The lawn signs and other ways of showing our appreciation for the Class of 2020 are in the works!

Concluding Thoughts
Please know we are in the process of contacting your son by phone and/or email to receive information on what college or university he has been accepted to or plans to enroll next year to prepare a Graduation program. We want to promote and congratulate all members of our Class of 2020 and share with you and others what four year universities or community college graduates gained acceptance to or will be attending in the fall. We are proud of our Class of 2020 and want to share their achievement with others!

If you have questions not addressed in this letter please give our front office a call (323) 225-2438 from 8:30am - 2:30pm Monday thru Friday and we will try to answer your questions. May God bless you, your son and family and know you are in our thoughts and prayers and we wish all members of the Class of 2020 all the best. Once a Phantom, Always a Phantom!

Best regards,
Brother John Montgomery, FSC
Principal