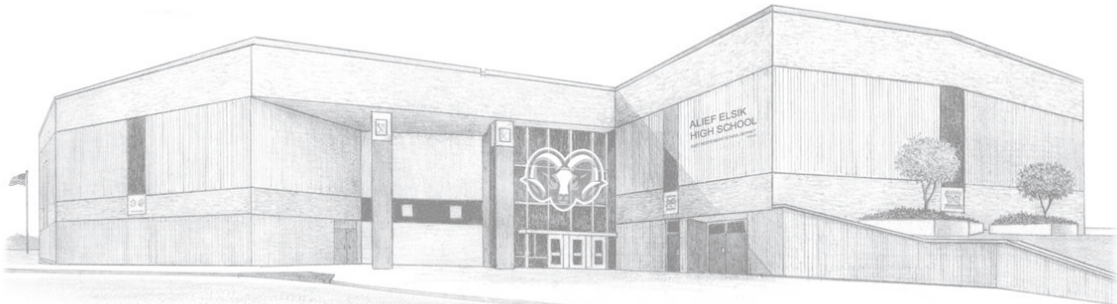




Class of
2021
Graduation Ceremony



ELSIK HIGH SCHOOL
Home of the Mighty Rams

From the Superintendent

May 2021

Dear Graduating Seniors

Without question, the greatest sense of pride I have each year is watching students walk across the stage as a high school senior and exit the stage just seconds later as a high school graduate. Every one of you know that it took more than a “few seconds” to earn the privilege of being a graduate.

Please take a moment and think about how our world has changed during the past 15 months. Despite the challenges that the pandemic threw at us, you found a way to continue your learning online and graduate. Despite the social injustices committed in this country, you found a way to peacefully call for change in our country and still continue making strides towards graduation. The New Year brought a historic freeze to Texas, and, despite being out of school for several days, you didn't miss a beat and you still pressed onward to complete the necessary requirements for graduation.

For this significant accomplishment, it is with pride and honor that I congratulate you, your family and every teacher that has ever had an impact on you towards reaching this milestone.

Please know you are beginning a new chapter in your life that is both exciting and a little intimidating. Take the excitement you are feeling now and trust it to get you through the challenges that life will present. You will soon learn that enthusiasm and confidence in your abilities will allow you to accomplish great things. Whether you are going on to college or entering the workforce, never lose sight of your passion, and never let anyone persuade you that you can't achieve your life's dreams.

As you prepare to leave high school, be sure to thank your family, friends and teachers. You are where you are today because of these individuals. Please keep in mind that your teachers had to pivot on a dime in March 2020 to continue challenging you with rigorous online instruction.

I ask you to please stay in touch, remain Alief Proud and do your part to keep the legacy of the Class of 2021 great.

I wish each of you the best of luck, success and happiness. Congratulations!



H.D. Chambers
Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent

H.D. Chambers

Board of Trustees

Darlene Breaux

Natasha Butler

Jennifer Key

Rick Moreno

John Nguyen

Dr. Lily Truong

Ann Williams



May 13, 2021

Dear Parents and Mighty Ram Graduates,

On behalf of the Elsik High School staff and administration, we congratulate you and your child for their perseverance and commitment towards meeting the requirements to graduate. This is a time to celebrate your child's accomplishments, as they culminate their last year at Elsik. We recognize the important role that parents play in their child's education and value your participation and attendance at the upcoming commencement ceremony. We invite you and your extended family to attend this formal celebration, which will be held at Tully Stadium on Thursday, June 3, at 8:00 PM.

Family members and guests of Graduating Seniors of the Class of 2021 must have a ticket in order to attend this year's graduation ceremony. The number of tickets available is limited to four per Graduating Senior due to safety guidelines established by the Center of Disease Control (CDC) because of COVID-19. Tickets will be issued to Graduating Seniors on June 1st and June 2nd from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM for all **virtual** graduating seniors and during lunch for all **in-person** graduating seniors.

This packet contains important information regarding the Elsik graduation ceremony. It is important that both you and your graduate read and discuss the information enclosed so that you can become more aware of the activities and guidelines involved in graduation. You will find general graduation information, directions, parking information, and dress code guidelines.

This information is important and helpful so that you and your child can prepare for the commencement ceremony. This letter, however, is not a guarantee that your student will graduate. Graduating seniors must have successfully completed all required credits, adhered to the district's attendance policy, and successfully completed all state assessments to receive an Alief ISD diploma.

Again, I congratulate you and your child for achieving this academic honor. I thank you for your involvement and support throughout the years. If you have any questions or concerns, please send an email to Tina.Elzy@aliefisd.net

Sincerely,

Tina Elzy

Tina Elzy
Coordinating Principal

CLASS OF 2021 GRADUATION INFORMATION

EXPECTATIONS

- Graduation will be held June 3, 2021 at 8:00 PM.
 - Darrell Tully Stadium, 1050 Dairy Ashford Road, Houston, TX, 77079
- Graduates must arrive no later than **7:00 PM**.
- When you arrive you will check in to receive your card with your row and seat assignment.
 - **Do not tear, fold, destroy, or lose this card. You will hand it to the caller before walking across the stage.**
- Report to the tarmac, find your assigned row, and be seated.
- There will be staff to help you find your row while practicing social distancing.
- All graduates will be required to wear a campus issued mask and abide by social distancing guidelines, as well as adhere to COVID-19 screening upon entry. Masks will be provided at graduation.
- At the end of the ceremony, we are asking graduates not to toss their caps due to social distancing guidelines and the inability to retrieve their own cap.
- When directed, campus administration will dismiss everyone in an orderly manner by section and row.

DRESS CODE

- All graduates must follow all dress code regulations outlined below. If you arrive dressed and groomed inappropriately, you may not be allowed to take part in the ceremony.
- Graduates will not be allowed to carry anything in their hands during the ceremony. Leave cell phones, cameras, purses, etc. at home, in the car, or with family members.
- You will be checked as you enter the complex and all prohibited items will be confiscated.
- Any confiscated items can be picked up at Elsie entrance 3 on Friday, June 4 from 9:00 AM- 11:00 AM.
- **Graduates may not alter their cap and gown in any way (no decorations on your cap).**
 - **LADIES**
 - Black dress, black skirt or black pants
 - White blouse if wearing skirt or pants
 - Black flat dress shoes
 - **No heels or sandals allowed for safety reasons (you will be walking on turf)**
 - **GENTLEMEN**
 - Black pants
 - White collared shirt
 - Black dress shoes

TICKETS

- Each graduate will receive four (4) guest tickets for graduation.
- Tickets are non-replaceable.

CROSSING THE STAGE

- Graduation is a formal affair that should always be dignified.
- Graduates are to **walk** across the stage to receive their diploma cover.
- No dancing or exaggerated movements of any kind will be tolerated. Students failing to comply will be removed from graduation.

PROFESSIONAL PICTURES

- After you cross the stage, you will have your picture taken by a professional photographer and proofs will be mailed to you.

INFORMATION AND SEATING FOR PARENTS/GUESTS

- All guests must have a ticket to enter. Tickets are non-replaceable.
- If possible, one car per family, please.
- All guests will be required to wear masks and abide by social distancing guidelines, as well as adhere to COVID-19 screening upon entry.
- Strict social distancing guidelines will be in place for all graduates and guests.
 - Attendees will be asked to sit in designated areas and adhere to the social distancing guidelines issued by local, state, and national health agencies/authorities.
- No one, except graduates and staff, is allowed on the field of Tully Stadium during the ceremony.
- During the set-up of graduation, no family or friends may visit with the graduates on the field.
- Please remain seated until all graduates have exited the field.
- Graduates will be dismissed by campus administration in an orderly manner. Please be patient as we work to ensure the health and safety of all participants.
- Graduates and guests will exit the stadium through the south gates.
- No one will be allowed to congregate on the field or in the parking area after the ceremony. Graduates and guests must clear the parking area immediately.

CAMERAS

- **Please take pictures at home.**
- Video cameras on tripods are not allowed in the stadium.
 - Family and friends may video record from their seat location.
- No one is allowed along the walkway as this is against city fire codes.
 - The City of Houston Fire Marshals will be present to enforce these codes. Failure to comply could result in the suspension of graduation exercises.

DIPLOMAS

- Graduates may pick up their diploma at Elsie entrance 3 on Wednesday, June 16 or Thursday, June 17 between the hours of 8:00-11:00 AM or 1:00-3:00 PM.
- You must show a valid driver's license/ID to pick up your diploma.
 - Only the graduate whose name is on the diploma may pick it up.
- **Diplomas are non-replaceable.**

ADDITIONAL REMINDERS

- Balloons, noisemakers, whistles, horns, signs, etc. are not allowed. These items are disruptive to the ceremony. They will be confiscated and the person may be asked to leave.
- All participants are expected to be respectful when speeches are being made and names of the graduates are read.
- Tully stadium has a clear bag policy.
 - Only small (no bigger than 8"x10") clear bags will be permitted at Tully Stadium for all graduations.
- You are a graduate of Elsie High School. Make sure you represent yourself, your family, and Elsie High School with Excellence, Honor, and Spirit.
- The graduation ceremony will be live-streamed. Check the graduation information on the Alief ISD website on the day of the ceremony for the live-stream link.

DATES TO REMEMBER

TECHNOLOGY CHECK-IN

- **IN-PERSON STUDENTS**
 - **Thursday, May 20th** through English IV class
 - **Friday, May 21st** by alpha all-call.
- **VIRTUAL STUDENTS**
 - **Tuesday, May 25th** 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM (last name A-L) & 12:00-3:00 PM (last name M-Z)
 - **Wednesday, May 26th** 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM (last name A-L) & 12:00-3:00 PM (last name M-Z)
 - Enter through South Gym Entrance 6. Please come during your assigned time.

SENIOR CLEARANCE & GRADUATION TICKET PICK-UP

- **Tuesday, June 1st & Wednesday, June 2nd**
 - **In-person** Seniors will pick up their tickets during lunch at the Spirit Store.
 - **Virtual** Senior clearance and graduation ticket pick-up will be from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM.
 - Enter through North Gym Entrance 1.
 - **Tickets will not be issued until all fines are paid and textbooks and technology are turned in.**
 - **Last chance to pick up/purchase your cap and gown for the graduation ceremony.**
- **Wednesday, June 2nd**
 - Last day to clear all fines and turn in technology in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.
 - We will be available from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM in the North Gym.
 - **If you are not cleared by 5:00 PM you may not participate in the graduation ceremony.**

SENIOR CAP AND GOWN DAY

- **Wednesday, June 2nd**
 - In-person seniors wear your gown to school.

GRADUATION

- **Thursday, June 3rd**
 - Tully Stadium at 8:00 PM (all Seniors must arrive by 7:00 PM)

DIPLOMA PICK-UP

- **Tuesday, June 16th & Wednesday, June 17th**
 - Diploma pick-up at Entrance 3 between the hours of 8:00-11:00 AM or 1:00-3:00 PM.
 - You must have your school ID or state issued ID in order to pick up your diploma.
 - Only the graduate whose name is on the diploma may pick it up.
 - **Diplomas are non-replaceable.**



GRADUATION LOCATION AND PARKING

- Parents and guests will have access to all of the parking areas except for VIP parking.
- Graduating seniors and guests will enter the stadium through entrance one or two.

Darrell Tully Stadium
1050 Dairy Ashford Road, Houston, TX 77079



West Side: (Dairy Ashford Rd.)

1. West Tarmac Gate Entrance for Graduates
3. Board Member / VIP Parking
4. Southwest Ticket Booth
5. West Side Parking
6. West Ticket Booth
7. Northwest Ticket Booth
8. West Side Seating
9. North End Parking

East Side: (Tully St.)

2. East Tarmac Entrance for Graduates
10. Northeast Ticket Booth
11. East Side Parking
12. Southeast Ticket Booth
13. East Side Seating
14. VIP Parking #2