Dear 8th Grade Families,

We are looking forward to seeing Julian families for the eighth grade graduation ceremony on Friday, May 31 at Oak Park and River Forest high school. To ensure that all end of the year events run as smoothly and safely as possible, we are asking all attendees to carefully review the reminders shared below.

## JULIAN GRADUATION MATERIALS and FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

- **Distribution:** Wednesday, May 22, at 3:15 p.m.; graduates will be given the graduation ceremony tickets, and if ordered, their cap, gown, tassel and Class of 2024 t-shirt. We will NOT distribute items prior to 5/22 nor before 3:15 p.m. If your child is absent or has an early dismissal on the distribution day, then they will be able to get their graduation materials from their advisory teacher on the following school day.
- **Cap and Gowns:** For families that transferred late in the school year or did not order a cap and gown for their 8th grader, the school office will have a limited number of new or gently used cap and gowns available for sale ($25 for the set) between 8am – 4pm on school days. If you did not remember to order a 2024 tassel, they are $10 each. Students should bring exact change (there is no online or check payment option for graduation materials). Remember, if you are using a sibling's old cap and gown, please check the fit and condition now. The school office will close promptly at 4pm on graduation day.
- **Ticket Envelopes:** The graduation materials bag will contain a ticket envelope for each graduate attending the ceremony. Julian graduates will get 4 tickets. **Lost or misplaced tickets will not be replaced.**
- **Six Flags Great America Field Trip on Tuesday, May 28:**
    - For those students that are attending the field trip (purchased the Mega Deal or Season Pass Deal): Students will line up OUTSIDE of Julian at 9:00 am on 5/28 and board buses by Team.
    - Students must wear their new Class of 2024 t-shirt. If they forget to wear the t-shirt, then they will be given an old Julian IAR or PE gym uniform shirt to wear on the field trip. We must be able to easily identify our students at the amusement park. So students need to remember to wear the Class of 2024 t-shirt for the field trip on 5/28.
    - Six Flags Great America admission/lunch/snack vouchers will be given out at the amusement park. Their SFGA admission tickets and vouchers will NOT be distributed on 5/22.

## JULIAN GRADUATION DAY DETAILS and OPRFHS INFORMATION

- **School day:** On Friday, May 31, school starts as normal at 9:00 a.m. Students will be taken by bus over to the high school for rehearsal. At approximately, 11:45 a.m. - noon, students will return to Julian. If you give your child permission to be released directly from OPRFHS to walk or ride home, please fill out this google form. If you plan to pick up your child from Julian, or give them permission to leave early, fill out the google form as soon as possible.

- **Graduation Ceremony:**
    - **When:** Friday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m.; Graduates must arrive by 6:00 p.m. to line up.
    - **Where:** Oak Park and River Forest High School Auditorium, 201 Scoville Ave.
    - Graduates must enter through Door 5
    - Families/guests will use Door 4 (Main Entrance/Visitors Entry); for ADA accessibility, use Door 4 as well.
- **Live Streaming:** The ceremony will be live streamed on the District 97 YouTube channel beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- **Tickets:** Each graduate received four tickets for guests. Each guest, regardless of age, **must** have a ticket to enter the building/auditorium. Lost or misplaced tickets will not be replaced.

## GENERAL CEREMONY GUIDELINES

- **Graduate Attire:** If purchased, red cap and gown; otherwise, dress attire.
- **Noise/Celebratory Items:** Balloons, streamers and noisemakers are not allowed in the building. OPRFHS Security will not permit you to enter the high school with balloons.
- **Food:** There will be no outside food or beverages allowed into the OPRFHS auditorium.
- **Photography:** Please refrain from using flash photography as it can be blinding to the students and the speakers on stage. Photos and/or video recordings should be taken outside, before or after the ceremony.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you Friday, May 31st!

Sincerely,

Percy Julian Middle School