



Dear Natomas High, and Inderkum High students, staff and families,

Keeping the safety of you all first, and out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to move your graduations this week to Golden 1 Center. Same days, same times, indoor venue. As most of you know, Golden 1 Center is located in the general vicinity of 5th and J streets in downtown Sacramento, with a specific address of 500 David J. Stern Walk.

For years and years, our high schools have held their graduation ceremonies outdoors. Weather the past few weeks has kept us on our toes. We've been monitoring Tuesday's and Wednesday's weather forecast every day. As the weather is fickle, predictions change every two hours. While a little rain won't hurt anyone, the on-and-off prediction of potential lightning, and even some of the intensity of rain we've had recently -- after forecasts initially called for "sprinkles" -- have prompted us to come up with this Plan B for our graduation ceremonies. Heavy rains and lightning do not mix well with metal bleachers and guests who will face physical challenges when bleacher steps are slippery. Besides, views are disrupted if umbrellas are everywhere.

There were no venues in Natomas to hold the crowds our graduations draw. Thanks to the quick mobilizing of the Sacramento Kings, we've been able to shift our graduations. Normally a school would get months to plan for a new venue. Our teams at NHS and IHS get 3-4 days. Thanks in advance for your patience. People have and will be working long days to pull this together. Each site will communicate specifics. We will make some adjustments to assist students who may need transportation help. Specifics will follow from Mr. Pitts and Mr. Motherspaw soon.

Plan on a few things for sure ... get there early. Doors will open an hour early and Golden 1 Center will screen all guests like they do at a Kings game or concert. Parking is not free. Sites will send parking information soon. Once again, parking is not free.

As I look at the weather now, rain is set for Tuesday, the day of Natomas High's graduation. And Inderkum's event on Wednesday looks like partly cloudy and 74 degrees. Murphy's law ... both days end up beautiful and there was no need to move. However, our philosophy won't change. Safety for our students, staff and families stays first. So this is the smart thing to do (and maybe even the start of a new tradition).

Again, details from the sites are coming. And thanks for your patience.

Sincerely,

Chris Evans
Superintendent