

## GRADUATION 2018

### Proposal to move to Saturday

#### Justifications:

- Family demands on graduates' schedules
- Out-of-town relatives' travel ease (whether from Boston or California, Friday nights mean time off work, rush hour traffic, very inconvenient timing)
- Parents working on Friday (most have to take time off; can mean not only lost work time, but lost wages)
- Family/community celebrations: no time between 8:30 – 10:30pm (graduation to Grad Night celebrations); Saturday would allow for family time between noon-ish and 10pm for families – on the weekend!
- More reasonable window for admin & guidance between final exams and graduation (fewer surprises for students on the cusp)
- Graduation practices/end of year events easier and more definitive with a day buffer; this includes time for seating arrangements, ordering accurate programs, and getting all diplomas signed and organized
- Current seniors overwhelmingly prefer Saturday (in exit polls for senior class meeting, 57 students stated they preferred a Saturday morning ceremony over a Friday night; 12 stated no preference; 14 preferred leaving it on Friday, many stating it's for the sake of "tradition")
- In informal discussions, faculty/staff prefers a Saturday morning; many report not attending Friday nights because it's always at the end of a long week in the middle of senior/underclass exams
- We have not polled parents/families, but could easily do so