

SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
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WESLEY W. SHIPLEY, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, Community Members and Friends,

Like all the parents and guardians in our district, I have been looking forward to my own daughter's graduation from high school as a special event in our family's life. Unfortunately, when her school schedule was made public it was clear that I was faced with a conflict. My daughter is graduating from high school on the same evening as our seniors. As a father of three girls, I am excited for my oldest to reach her graduation and I am looking forward to that moment of pride when her name is called to receive her diploma. However, as Superintendent of Shaler Area, I feel a responsibility to our seniors.

For the last several weeks I have been attempting to find a way so that I could be sure to be in attendance at the 2012 Shaler Area High School Graduation. I've discussed some possibilities with our District Parent Council and I met with the senior class to discuss some options. Everyone seemed open to making a change if necessary. More importantly, everyone understood and empathized with my situation.

After much thought and debate, however, it became clear to ask an entire class to change its graduation date was not going to work for our school community. Therefore, I've requested, and was granted, permission from our Board of Directors to be excused from this year's graduation ceremony which will remain on Friday, June 15, 2012.

I am disappointed that I will not be able to participate in my first graduation as your superintendent. I wish our seniors the best of luck as they work through the year. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wes Shipley
Superintendent