GRADUATION/COMMENCEMENT:

- Tickets are required for admittance into Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center.
- Absolutely no signs, noisemakers, balloons, etc. will be allowed into the convocation center. EMU security will confiscate air horns, noisemakers, etc. upon entry.
- There are handicap accessible areas available in the arena. Accommodations for one other person (accompanying the handicapped person) are available. Upon arrival, if you need wheelchair assistance in the arena, locate an EMU employee and he/she will assist you.
- You will not be allowed to go near the stage to take pictures. You can only take pictures from your seat. An official photograph will be taken of each student.
- Graduates will exit the arena AFTER the graduation ceremony into the parking lot and meet parents there. There is no re-entry into the building after the ceremony. Therefore, be sure he/she does not take anything into the building that could be left behind such as phones, coats, purses, cameras, iPods, etc. Graduate will not be allowed to carry anything into arena area. Please be sure phones, purses, cameras, iPods, etc. are left with you or remain at home.
- If your son/daughter wishes to attend Central or Western’s graduation ceremony, they may not wear Northern’s cap and gown into the building. EMU officials will not let them enter even if they are carrying their graduation garb.
- Flowers will be sold in the atrium of the Convocation Center. Please give these to students after the ceremony since they won’t be able to carry them.
- There are no concessions and/or vending machines at the Convocation Center.

PROM:

- Set a reasonable budget in advance for prom expenses and adhere to that budget.
- Remember that the Student Code of Conduct remains in effect for prom night and after prom activities. This includes abiding by the school dress code when choosing prom attire.
- Empower your child to say “no” by blaming you. (“I can’t do that! My parents will kill me!”)
- Tell your child not to be afraid to say “no.”
- Talk with other parents and become informed about the plans for after the prom.
- Regardless what your child may tell you, be aware that you are welcome to drop in at prom and view the decorations.

GRADUATION OPEN HOUSE AND PARTIES:

- Talk to friends and neighbors about open house traditions in your neighborhood. Speak to other parents who have been through the experience of graduation parties.
- Consider having a combined party for your student and other friends.
- Develop a budget and adhere to it.
- Before setting the date, ask your child to coordinate with friends to minimize conflicts with their parties.
- Set specific start and end times.
- DON’T serve alcohol at a graduation open house. That’s the unanimous, adamant advice of the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals.
- Be respectful of your neighbors.
- Be sure guests have no alcohol in their possession.
- Have adults present at all times during the party.