

## Virtual Prom Collaboration with VPR Considerations for Students and Educators

The Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) and Vermont Public Radio (VPR) are partnering to create an opportunity to reinvent prom during COVID-19 and while schools still adhere to physical distancing requirements and [current guidance on end-of-year gatherings](#). Prom has been a part of American culture since 1894 and has survived depressions and world war. As an iconic event that many juniors and seniors look forward to and spend a great deal of time planning for, the AOE and VPR are proud to present a state-wide “virtual” prom for juniors and seniors **on Saturday, May 30, 2020, at 7 p.m.** hosted by DJ cRAIG mITCHELL from **Big Heavy World**.

### How Students Can Participate

- Visit [VPR’s Prom Goes #VTstrong webpage](#) for information on how to [submit shout outs to friends and graduating seniors](#)
- Plan [local Zoom meetings or Google Hangouts](#) for groups of students so they can safely party together.
- Leverage Parent-Teacher organizations or other community groups to provide resources
  - Are there florists that might donate boutonnieres or corsages to students?
  - Are there local food establishments that would deliver a special treat to students?

### Safety Considerations for Schools and Families

- Gatherings over 10 people are still prohibited in accordance with Governor Scott’s [Directive of May 15](#).
- Consider having chaperones present in any school-sanctioned or parent/guardian-hosted virtual hangout to act as moderators.
- Establish ground-rules consistent with in-person prom expectations (e.g., behavioral expectations, etc.)

### Ideas for Students

- Consider your video backdrop by adding a virtual background or decorate the space with:
  - Tapestries, holiday decorations at hand, flowers, etc.
- Add mood lighting
  - Holiday lights or twinkly lights, lamps, glowsticks, etc.
- Make it a family event by partying with family

For more information, please visit VPR’s [PromGoes#VTstrong webpage](#)

### Contact Information:

If you have questions about this document or would like additional information please contact: Margaret Carrera-Bly, Student Pathways Division, at [margaret.carrera-bly@vermont.gov](mailto:margaret.carrera-bly@vermont.gov).