

Washington High School

Graduation Planner

Class of 2018



“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” — [Nelson Mandela](#)

“Home of the Patriots”

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(Revised 10/3/17)

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Introduction

Welcome to the end of your public-school career. You have nearly made it!

We are excited for you and your families as you close this chapter of your lives.

Graduation is an important time. It marks the end of adolescence and may send you with a mixture of joy and trepidation into the adult world.

We hope you and your parents find this information a useful tool in planning and celebrating this monumental event.

Feel free to call us at 298-4700 if you have any questions regarding commencement or the many other graduation activities.



Ceremony Information

Behavior Expectations

Because this is a school event, all school rules apply during the commencement ceremony. We encourage graduates not to ruin the event by using alcohol or drugs or by behaving in ways that will detract from the ceremony. Any senior found to be in violation of these rules (and other distractions not mentioned) will be removed from the graduation ceremony and will be subject to consequences according to school and district policy.

We encourage students, parents, and guests to express joy and excitement on this very special evening; however, we request that everyone refrain from bringing items that do not befit a formal ceremony. The following items, and other items not mentioned that could cause a distraction, are not allowed in the stadium.

- air horns
- Silly String®
- confetti
- balloons
- beach balls

Parents and guests are encouraged to remain in their seats as their child's name is called.

Board Members

Two school board members will be attending our commencement. Board members are key links to the success of our school district. They have the honor of shaking your hand as you receive a diploma. Dr. Frank Hewins, our Superintendent, will speak at graduation and accept the class after the principal presents seniors' qualifications to graduate.

Ceremony Attire

All graduating seniors are required to wear a cap and gown to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Jostens provides graduation products such as caps and gowns, class rings, announcements, and other graduation items for our seniors to purchase. Cap and gown cost for the graduating class of 2018 will be \$42.00 plus \$9.95 s/h and 9.9% tax. (Keep in mind to get your order in early to get the lower pricing. Pricing goes up as of Dec 11, 2017.) If for some reason, you will not need the cap and gown later, the cap and gown cost of \$42 + tax is refundable.

- Attire under gowns should be **formal** and comfortable.
- Shoes are required.
- Please press your gown prior to the graduation ceremony.

For information on ordering caps and gowns, class rings, and other graduation items, contact Jostens at (253) 210-0575 or go to mortonoffice@jostens.com.

Ceremony Date and Location

The graduation ceremony will be held at the Washington State Fair Events Center on **Saturday, June 9** from **1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** Seniors need to report to the Puyallup fairgrounds by **12:15 p.m.** Seating will open to families starting at **12:30 p.m.**

Ceremony Rehearsal

All graduating seniors are required to attend a mandatory rehearsal at the fairgrounds on **Friday, June 8th** from 10:45 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m. Be prompt as we will have much to go over and will practice line-up and walking procedures until it is done correctly.

Ceremony Speakers

The senior class will nominate ten speaker candidates from a list of class members who meet the eligibility requirements listed below. Selected students wishing to be considered for speaker will audition in front of a panel of students, staff, and parents. The panel will select the two speakers of their choice from the finalists. The class valedictorian will also have an opportunity to speak at the ceremony. Note: if the speaker is disqualified because of poor citizenship or does not meet graduation requirements, a student speaker will not be selected at this year's graduation.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Senior must have attended WHS in the 11th and 12th grade.
- Senior must have attended at least 4 periods a day at WHS in the senior year.
- Senior must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or higher at the time of selections.
- Senior must have no misbehavior suspensions or unethical activity in the senior year.

Honor Cords

Prior to the ceremony, students who have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 through January 26th will receive an honor cord at no charge.

Parking

Free parking is available for families and guests in the Red and Gold parking lots. Please note: The Blue parking lot is reserved for participants attending another event. Do not park in this parking lot; it is not free parking.

Pictures

A commercial photographer will be taking pictures of seniors shaking the hand of a school board member as they receive a diploma. Seniors will receive picture order information when they pick up their diploma beginning June 15th.

Seating

Seating will be open to families and guests at 12:30 p.m. and will be on a first come, first served basis. Seating for the elderly and the individuals with disabilities is available on a first come, first served basis as well. We encourage you to arrive early and have at least one family member accompany those in special seating.

Tickets

Seniors will receive six (6) free tickets at the end of rehearsal on Friday, June 8th. Purchase additional tickets May 7th to June 8th at the cashier's window or at the gate on graduation day. Additional tickets are **\$7.00 each**.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian will be the senior who has attended Washington High School all four years and has earned the highest-grade point average in class. This individual must have attended four classes/periods a day on the Washington High School campus during his or her senior year and not have any suspensions for misbehavior or unethical activity. The valedictorian has the option of giving a speech at graduation. If this individual chooses not to speak, there will only be the two committee-selected speakers. If there is more than one valedictorian, each one has the option to speak.

Walking Partner

Start to think about whom you would like to walk with during graduation. A name card is given to seniors to assist in line placement and to give to the name announcers to read.

Graduation Logistics

Diploma Certificate

As seniors walk on the stage, they will receive a diploma cover. The actual diploma certificate will become available in the main office beginning June 15th. Seniors with fines will not be given a diploma. A fine list will be posted outside the cashier's office; check for fines! Seniors are encouraged to pick up their diplomas before the end of summer.

If a diploma has a spelling error, Washington High School will reorder it at no cost until June 15, 2019. Contact Jostens at (253) 210-0575 after June 15, 2018 if a diploma contains an error or is lost. Jostens imposes a fee to reorder a diploma after one year from the date of graduation. Please call Nancy Barber at (253) 298-4700 if someone other than the graduate is picking up the diploma

We do not keep copies of diplomas! We suggest making copies of your diploma to give to a trusted family member for safekeeping. If you lose your diploma and do not have a backup, first call Washington High School for graduation verification (we will in turn notify Jostens) and then contact Jostens to reorder a diploma. Jostens imposes a reprinting fee and can take up to two months to receive.

Fines and Fees

Return all school property (textbooks, supplies and materials, uniforms, etc.) and pay or clear fines prior to leaving on **Friday, June 1st (seniors' last day)**. See the fine list posted on the cashier's window if unsure of a fine. Mrs. Pedrique, our cashier, is available before school, during lunches, and after school. During the summer, the cashier's office is closed and the teachers gone; it is important to take care of fines and disputes prior to the school year ending. Otherwise, the matter will have to wait until the start of the next school year.

Grades and Transcripts

Final grades and transcripts will be available **July 7th**. If you need additional transcripts for college, call Mrs. Wiklund, at (253) 298-4713. Transcript requests for college admissions will be mailed in July.

Graduation Requirements

Each year a handful of seniors are behind in credits for various reasons or because they did not work hard the last few weeks. **NO EXCEPTIONS** will be made to those who do not meet graduation requirements. Stay focused until the end! To check credits or graduation status or to turn in other forms such as Running Start forms, see your counselor or call 298-4734.

Mary Huggler (A-G)	mhuggler@fpschools.org	298-4861
Eduardo Ortiz (H-N)	eortiz@fpschools.org	298-4736
Doria Hastings (O-Z)	dhastings@fpschools.org	298-4735
Julien Pollard	jpollard@fpschools.org	298-4860

Implementation of Policy No. 6410: February 10, 2004

Only students that have completed all graduation requirements prior to the graduation ceremony will receive a high school diploma.

Graduation Requirements:

1. Pass State tests showing achievement in basic skills or complete State approved alternatives to those tests.
2. Develop High School and Beyond Plan
3. Complete and present culminating project (Portfolio)
4. Obtain a minimum of 22 credits in required courses.

Reunion Information

Senior class officers are typically responsible for future class reunions. It is important that you have some means by which to locate each other in the years ahead.

The Senior Class Officers:

Presidents: Dulce Espinoza & Vanessa Faker
Vice-President: Shaniya Singh
Secretary: Cayla Bigelow
Treasurer: Ariyanna Pyles

Senior Class Staff Advisors:

Amy Verece and Rene Alvarez Jr.

~~Alexis Dixon~~

~~COA — Clairriss Johnson~~

Senior Awards Assembly

A formal ceremony to recognize seniors and their achievements is on Thursday, May 31, 2018 at 8:55 a.m. to honor seniors and to distribute thousands of dollars in scholarships and awards. We encourage parents to attend and take pictures! Senior dress semi-formal as many district personnel and community members attend this special event to celebrate your success.

Notify the Counseling Center by **Monday, May 8th** of any outside awards or college acceptance letters you have received so we can recognize your accomplishments.

Every year, Washington High School faculty selects a senior with a minimum GPA of 3.3 or higher to receive the Most Outstanding Senior award. The award is given out at the Senior Awards Assembly in June. At that time, the student receives a plaque and his or her name is added to the trophy and kept in the main office.

Seniors' Last Day of School

The last regular school day for seniors is after the Moving-Up Assembly on **Friday, June 1, 2018**. Please empty lockers, return books, and pay fines before leaving.

Senior Prom

Senior Prom will be held **May 5th from 7:00 to 10:00 pm** at the Tacoma Union Station. Students cannot reenter the facility after 8:00 p.m. There is no exception to this rule! All fines must be cleared by prior to purchasing tickets. Ticket price is to be determined. A photographer will be available during prom to take pictures.

Testing Information

AP exam tests will be held **May 7-11** and **May 14-18**. Senior finals dates will be determined later in the year. You will be given more information closer to testing.

Yearbook

Yearbook is working hard to make senior year extra special! Seniors have until January 12 to submit senior photos. Submit your photo by bringing a hard copy of the photo to the main office for Mrs. Horst or email a digital copy to ahorst@fpschools.org.

Don't forget to purchase a senior page! Half page is \$60, full page \$100. Pay Ms. Pedrique in the cashier office. All payments must be made before work begins on pages. Submit photos by bringing hard copies of the photos to the main office for Mrs. Horst or email digital copies to ahorst@fpschools.org. Senior pages must be purchased by January 12.

Buy your book of memories at the Cashier's Office within the timeframe listed below.

Sept 1-29	\$55
Dec 1-Jan 31	\$60
Jun 1-Jun 19	\$65

Purchase yearbooks early because quantities are limited!

"Memory is a way of holding onto the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose."

The Wonder Years TV Show

Senior Events

September 2017

- Submit senior photos for the yearbook to yearbook advisor or email to arasler@fpschools.org Beginning Sep 1
- Purchase senior pages for the yearbook Beginning Sep 1

October 2017

- FAFSA Open House Oct 11; 6:00-7:30
- Jostens Senior Class meeting in theater Oct 26; 9:15-9:40

November 2017

- Senior Scholarship Notebook first submission day Nov 1
- Jostens Order Day (cap and gown, grad products, class ring, jacket) during lunches Nov 16; 10:40-12:10

January 2018

- Deadline to submit senior photos to Mrs. Horst, yearbook teacher, in room 222 Jan 12
- Deadline to purchase senior pages for yearbook. See Ms. Pedrique in the cashier's office Jan 12
- Finals Exams (1st Semester) Jan 25, 26; Released @10:55a

April 2018

- Prom Dance Request forms become available at the Student Information Center Apr 2
- Purchase Prom Tickets at the cashier's window during lunch or after school Apr 16-May 2
(*May also be purchased online if senior does not have a fine.*)
- Senior Portfolio Presentations (graduation requirement) Apr 24-27
- Senior Class meeting during Pats in theater to talk about prom Apr 26
- Senior Prom Dance Request form and fine clearance deadline Apr 30

May 2018

- Senior Prom at the Tacoma Union Station May 5; 7:00-10:00p
- AP Exam Testing May 7-18
- Purchase graduation tickets at cashier's window (Cost to be determined.) May 7-Jun 8
- Senior Class meeting during Pats in theater to talk about awards ceremony and graduation May 17
- Senior Awards assembly May 31; 8:55a

June 2018

- Moving Up Assembly Jun 1
- Last day of school for seniors Jun 1
- Senior Finals **TBD**
- Senior Meeting after Finals (*Attendance is mandatory*) **TBD**
- Graduation Rehearsal at the Western Washington Puyallup Fairgrounds Jun 08; 10:45a-1:00p
(*Seniors will receive their six free tickets. Attendance is mandatory*)
- Graduation Ceremony (*Seniors are to arrive at the Western Washington Puyallup Fairgrounds by 12:15 p.m.*) Jun 09; 1:30p
- First day to pick up diploma in the main office Jun 15; 9:00a

