

Washington High School

Home of the Patriots!

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MARCH 2018

Principal Hester's Message

Families of Washington High School,

First semester has ended at WHS, and we are looking forward to second semester. Time sure flies. I am happy to be able to report to you on our progress and the exciting things that are happening for our students.

The average on-time graduation rate at WHS over the past five years is about 85%. The on-time rate for the state during this same period is under 80%. Our extended graduation rate for the past two years is over 90%. Several years ago, our school was referred to as a "Dropout Factory" in an article by the Tacoma News Tribune. This year our staff was featured in articles in the Seattle Times and a Gates Foundation publication for our dramatic improvements. Our staff has worked very hard to build programs and systems of support for our students. An example of one program we have put in place is our Extended Semester Program.

Some of our students received incomplete grades for first semester classes as a result of our Extended Semester Program. This program gives students who are close to earning credit at the end of the semester an opportunity to bring their grade up to a passing grade rather than having to repeat the entire class. Our experience over the past several years shows that an overwhelming majority of students who receive incomplete grades turn those grades into passing grades. This is an opportunity that is not available to students at many other area high schools. The Extended Semester Program reflects our staff's dedication to our students and our school motto – "Failure Is Not an Option". Please make sure you ask your student and/or contact their teachers to find out if they have any incomplete grades they can be working on through our Extended Semester Program.

One of the greatest things about my job is attending co-curricular activities at WHS. I recently attended our school play, under the direction of our new drama teacher Ms. Towne, and our students did an outstanding job. It was great to see so many new actors on stage. Prior to winter break I had the opportunity to attend our Holiday Concert under the direction of Mr. Ferguson, and our new choir teacher Mrs. Hills. The concert was a great success. Involvement in our music program is at an all-time high, with over eighty students participating in band. Our Leadership students did an amazing job with our Winter Wishes program and assembly prior to Winter Break. The spirit of giving was alive and well at WHS during the holiday season. Thank you to all staff, community members, and local business who made generous donations, and a special thanks to our leadership teacher Mr. Booth for bringing such passion to this great WHS event. Most recently I was fortunate to attend the Mat Classic State Wrestling Tournament, where our very own Josh Camacho placed 6th in state. Congratulations to Josh, and our other winter sports state competitors.

Finally, I ask you to help us help your student by monitoring his or her grades on-line and insisting to see completed homework. I look forward to seeing you at a school event very soon. **Go PATS!**

Kind Regards,
James



The Track & Field season is under way and the team would love to have you come out and support them!

GO PATS!

Date	Time	Location	Opponent(s)
(Sat) March 17	1:00 PM	Washington HS	Patriot Time Trial
(Thu) March 22	3:30 PM	Washington HS	Evergreen Tye White River
(Thu) March 29	3:30 PM	Mt. Tahoma HS	Foss Foster
(Sat) April 7	10:30 AM	Renton Memorial Stadium	Arnie Young Invite
(Sat) April 14	10:00 AM	Franklin Pierce Stadium	Add It Up Invite
(Thu) April 19	3:30 PM	Fife HS	Fife Lindbergh
(Thu) April 26	3:30 PM	Fife HS	Fife Open
(Thu) May 3	3:30 PM	Franklin Pierce HS	Franklin Pierce HS
(Sat) May 5	9:30 AM	Centralia Tiger Stadium	Freshman Invite
(Fri) May 11	4:30 PM	Franklin Pierce Stadium	South Puget Sound League Meet
(Fri-Sat) May 18-19	3:30 PM 10:00 AM	Renton Memorial Stadium	West Central District Meet
(Thu-Sat) May 24-26	3:00 PM Thu 10:00 AM Fri 10:30 AM Sat	Mt. Tahoma HS	2A State Meet

SENIOR INFORMATION

Need money for college? Don't forget to check our district website for many available scholarships. Go to www.fpschools.org, click on WHS, counseling center, and then scholarships. Pay attention to deadlines so you won't miss out.

It's not too late to order a cap and gown unit, announcements, and other graduation items! Call Jostens at 1-800-Jostens and order over the phone or order online at www.jostens.com. It's that easy!

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE:

What's the latest we can place an order?

Technically, you have until June 30th. However, we suggest if you want to order just a cap and gown unit, do so by June 1st. The deadline to order all other graduation products is May 1st.

When do we have to make a final payment?

The final payment for orders placed in the fall is March 1, 2018 to avoid a potential late fee assessed to the order.

When will our cap and gown along with graduation products delivery occur?

All orders that were made prior to the December deadline date will be delivered during the lunches on Monday, April 2, 2018. Caps and gowns ordered after the December deadline and prior to March 25, 2018 will also try to be delivered on that date.

Can I use or borrow a cap and gown from a previous year?

Yes, as long as the cap and gown is from Jostens. You will still need to order a class stole and classic souvenir tassel by calling Jostens at 1-800-Jostens.

Can I purchase a cap/gown/tassel/stole unit at graduation?

Yes; the cost is \$60 and must be exact change. We do not carry cash on that day.

Can I purchase a stole and tassel at graduation?

Yes; the cost is \$30 and must be exact change. We do not carry cash on that day.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES, MARCH 20-23, 3.5 EARLY RELEASE

By now, your teen has asked you to attend a very important conference. During this conference, he or she will review with you class selections for next year and evaluate his or her culminating project progress. Student Led Conference attendance is a requirement for earning the .25 PATs credit. If you have questions, please contact your student's PATs advisor.

Tuesday March 20	Wednesday March 21	Thursday March 22	Friday March 23
Period 1 7:25-8:20	Period 4 7:25-8:20	Period 1 7:25-8:20	Period 4 7:25-8:20
Period 2 8:25-9:20	Period 5 8:25-9:20	Period 2 8:25-9:20	Period 5 8:25-9:20
Period 3 9:25-10:25	Period 6 9:25-10:25	Period 3 9:25-10:25	Period 6 9:25-10:25

YEARBOOK COST AND PURCHASING WINDOW

June 1-June 19 \$65 Purchase yearbooks from Ms. Pedrique in the Cashier's Office.

Did you miss the chance to buy a past yearbook? You're in luck! Past yearbooks are on sale for ten dollars. Call Mr. Coumbs at (253) 298-4818 to check on past yearbook availability and see Ms. Pedrique to pay for the yearbooks.

March 2018 Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
5 Schedule A	6 Schedule A	7 Schedule B Early Release, 12:25p	8 Schedule A	9 Schedule A
12 Schedule A	13 Schedule A	14 Schedule A	15 Schedule A	16 Schedule
19 Schedule A	20 HS Conferences, 3.5 hr. Early Release, 10:25a	21 HS Conferences, 3.5 hr. Early release, 10:25a	22 HS Conferences, 3.5 hr. Early release,10:25a	23 HS Conferences, 3.5 hr. Early release, 10:25a
26 Schedule A	27 Schedule A	28 Early Release, 12:25p	29 Schedule A	30 Schedule A

Franklin Pierce Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to Dr. Shaun Carey, Compliance Coordinator for State and Civil Rights Laws; Wendy Malich, Title IX Officer; or William Rasplica, 504/ADA Coordinator at 315 129th ST S, Tacoma, WA 98444-5099 or at (253)298-3000.

Senior Events

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 discuss awards ceremony/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