



South Whidbey School District

Education to Navigate a Wider World

May 29, 2020

Dear Students, Families, Staff and community,

Mr. Patton and I are happy to provide details here on our upcoming events! We are getting ready to celebrate our seniors. It has been a very difficult three months of quarantine. During this time students, staff and parents have provided guidance, nurturance and time for all of our students to move forward in their learning. Our seniors have not had the senior year that any of us anticipated. Yet, we are excited to have updated our plans on upcoming celebrations!

On Tuesday June 9th at 9:30 PM we will meet at the Blue Fox Drive in, Oak Harbor for the senior scholarship and video celebration. It is this late as we need it to be dark for the drive in! Bring snacks and enjoy. Please remember we all must stay in our cars.

We have planned a graduation parade/ceremony that safely honors our seniors, and is in compliance with the guidelines provided by the Washington State Department of Health. While our original logistics certainly honored our students, we also recognized that this frustrated some folks who wanted to accommodate a split family by having two cars able to travel together. Attached to this email you will find details and logistics for the upcoming graduation celebration. We have tried to accommodate all of our seniors and their families with this plan. I certainly hope everyone is able to enjoy the celebration while respecting the need to be socially separated.

WE WILL SEND OUT MORE DETAILS NEXT WEEK!

Tuesday, June 9th Blue Fox Drive In viewing of the Senior Slideshow.

Enter at 9:30, slideshow will start at 9:45PM (dusk)

****More details will be sent out late next week*

Saturday, June 13th Parade/Graduation Ceremony

******THE SOUTH WHIDBEY HS CAMPUS WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL FOOT TRAFFIC DURING THIS EVENT.**

11:30-12:00 We will line up in the student parking lot to begin the parade, staff will direct you.

- Everyone must remain in their cars before the parade begins.

- Decorate your vehicles before you arrive. Wear your caps and gowns!
- Vehicles allowed: Cars, SUVs, trucks (full size fine)
- Vehicles not allowed: trailers, tractors, busses, etc. If you have questions about your vehicle, please email jpatton@sw.wednet.edu for clarification. SPACE IS LIMITED.
- **ONLY ONE VEHICLE PER GRADUATE:**
The only exception is for those Seniors with split families. We will allow two vehicles for Seniors in that circumstance. But for coordination purposes, please email jpatton@sw.wednet.edu to sign up for two vehicles and then we'll respond with the specific instructions.

12:00-12:45 Senior Parade Begins

- Cars will exit the first entrance by the tennis courts.
- You will drive past the 7th-12th Grade Staff on the road in front of the school.
- You will then proceed to Langley; the complete parade route map will be sent out next week.
- As the parade comes back from Langley, you will drive through the K-6 bus lane and are greeted by the elementary staff.
- As you head back to SWHS, you will again drive past the 7-12 staff and enter the tennis court entrance.
- You will wind around the student parking lot to line up for the Senior staging in front of the main entrance.

12:45 Staging/Presentation of the Diploma

- Staging area will be next to the garden across from the front entrance.
- Each graduate will be instructed by staff to exit their vehicle and walk towards the stage, pick up their diploma cover, name will be announced and then walk under the arch for a photo opportunity.
- **ONLY GRADUATES MAY EXIT THE VEHICLE AT THE STAGING AREA.**
- We will have two professional photographers; those photos will be made available for purchase. Picture packets will be given.
- We will have a videographer also filming from two different cameras for our Graduation video which will be shared later in the summer.
- As the Senior enters the staging area, their family will follow in their car (or cars for split families). When the student is under the arch, family members in the car will have a

quick opportunity for their own pics or video from the vehicle. WARNING: This will take place quickly.

- After the photo, the graduate will exit to the left and return to their family's vehicle.
- We will keep the staging area up and decorated for the remainder of the weekend and into the following week for family photo opportunities after the ceremony. Please maintain social distancing!
- **CONGRATULATIONS!**