

AUSD to Hold Graduations, Promotions In Person This Year

We are delighted to announce that this year 5th grade, 8th grade, and 12th grade promotions and graduations will be held in-person again.

Last spring we were unable to hold graduation and promotion ceremonies (as well as proms, dinners, picnics, and the other traditional events associated with graduation) due to public health orders regarding COVID-19. Instead, we partnered with local production company Group Delphi and the Alameda Cineplex & Theatre to film students walking across the stage, receiving their diplomas, and making a brief statement. These clips were then combined with recordings of student, staff, and guest speakers to create a full, virtual ceremony.

(By the way, Group Delphi – now named Sparks – won a [Silver Stevie Award in the Brand Experience of the Year category](#) for last year’s AUSD Virtual Graduation!)

Due to a decrease in COVID-19 cases in our region and altered public health guidelines, AUSD can once again hold in-person graduation and promotion ceremonies. These events will comply with public health mandates and guidelines – including masking and social distancing -- as well as a cap on the number of guests each student can bring. But we are relieved, at least, to be able to hold in-person events. In addition, the senior dinner and picnic will still be held, although this year, again, high school proms cannot be held, due to the difficulty of complying with public health rules with such events.

You can find the schedule of graduations and promotions at www.alamedaunified.org/grad2021.

Looking for more ways to tune into the celebrations? Last year, KJTZ, Encinal High’s student-run radio station, found a way to celebrate our 5th, 8th, and 12th grade students by dedicating shows to each class and featuring students, teachers, the superintendent, and other staff and elected officials. This year, KJTZ is taking the extra step of featuring each school – again complete with interviews and good-natured banter from the on-air talent. The schedule for those shows is also available at www.alamedaunified.org/grad2021. Please tune in Thursday and Friday mornings at 96.1 FM or encinalradio.com!

