Walla Walla High School Senior Class of 2024 Graduation & Important End-of-Year Information

Wa-Hi Senior Class of 2024: Thanks for taking time to carefully read and review the important information included in this senior update.

GRADUATION 2024 CEREMONY: Our Wa-Hi Graduation Ceremony will be *Friday, June 7, 2024 beginning at 7:00 PM*. Gates open at 5:30. In addition to having the ceremony "live" for those who can attend in-person, we'll also *livestream* the ceremony for those unable to attend the graduation ceremony in person. It will be a great evening celebrating the awesome Wa-Hi Senior Class of 2024!



GRADUATION CEREMONY - THE PROGRAM: We are excited to have all seniors and many of their guests in person for graduation this year. Please be respectful to the speakers, musical groups, announcers, graduates, parents, staff, and guests during the ceremony. We anticipate the ceremony lasting from approximately 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

GRADUATION CEREMONY- LIVE STREAMING: As mentioned above, our *Wa-Hi Class of 2024* graduation ceremony will be live streamed so that anyone, anywhere with internet access can watch the celebration on YouTube via <u>Blue Devil Northwest</u>. Please share this information with any friends or relatives who will not be able to attend in person. The graduation ceremony will also be recorded so that it can be rewatched at home at a later time.

GRADUATION - SENIOR GRADUATION PRACTICE: Seniors are <u>required</u> to attend the MANDATORY graduation practice if they plan to participate in the graduation ceremony. Practice will be held on the day of graduation, Friday, June 7th, from 1:00 pm until approximately 3:00 pm. Please begin talking with your classmates to identify your group of students that you would like to walk in with. Groups can be up to 4 people. Know who your group of four is <u>prior</u> to practice.

During the practice all aspects of the ceremony will be practiced and reviewed so that all seniors know exactly what to do, when to do it, and will know where they and their guests will be seated. We'll take our group **Senior Picture**, before our Senior Breakfast that morning at around 9:15a.

GRADUATION CEREMONY - SEATING & TICKETS:

Graduation tickets will be distributed to each senior on graduation day at the end of graduation practice. Each senior will receive **6 tickets** for the fenced area. Each guest attending the graduation ceremony will need a ticket to enter the fenced area. Babies that can be held throughout the ceremony or



infants who can remain seated on the lap of a guest throughout the ceremony do not require a separate ticket. Young children who need a seat of their own will need a ticket of their own.

There is also seating available outside of the fenced area. No tickets are needed for the bleachers, inside the commons, or lawn outside of the fenced area.

EXTRA GRADUATION TICKETS: Students seeking additional tickets (or those with extra tickets) should check with their classmates to see who may have extra tickets available to share. We will distribute extra tickets after graduation practice on Friday June 7th one by one until all tickets are distributed. If students aren't able to secure additional tickets, remember the ceremony may be viewed by those unable to attend in person. Any additional tickets remaining will be distributed one by one after the graduation practice. There is also seating outside of the fenced area.

GRADUATION- ARRIVAL, PARKING, & TRAFFIC FLOW: Parking will be available in the Falbo Field, Blue Devil, both gym, and the main office parking lots. ADA parking will be available in the tennis court lot, as well as all ADA marked parking spots. Please see the <u>attached map</u>. The arrows mark walking paths, and the stars are where entrances to the ticketed areas will be located.

GRADUATION - SENIOR "STAGING" THE NIGHT OF GRADUATION: Please leave valuables at home as we will not have a place to lock them up. Graduates need to report to the large gym by 6:15 PM on graduation night so that we can have an on-time start to Graduation 2024. Students need to bring their cap, gown, and tassel! Seniors need to walk into the gym holding their gown. Seniors will gather and "stage" together in the Large Gym. Seniors will have a chance to take lots of pictures and enjoy gathering as the Wa-Hi Senior Class of 2024 for one last time.

GRADUATION - CAP, GOWN, & TASSEL: All seniors are to wear a Wa-Hi "royal blue" cap and gown for the graduation ceremony. Seniors may individualize/decorate their cap, but this needs to be done in a "school friendly" fashion that meets school dress code expectations (i.e. nothing offensive nor representing alcohol, drugs, etc.) Gowns are to remain unchanged & undecorated, though approved school "regalia" may be worn over the gown, including Valedictorian & Salutatorian stoles, and approved school club honoraria such as NHS honor cords, or a sash from JROTC, AVID, or Latino Club. All other "regalia" needs to be cleared with Mr. Schumacher and must be connected to a school club and/or activity.

After our graduation ceremony, please consider "recycling" your cap & gown by donating it back to the school so that a deserving future Blue Devil in need of a cap and/or gown will have one available. If you wish to donate your cap and gown you may turn them into the WaHi office.

GRADUATION - IMPORTANT GENERAL REMINDERS: A few friendly tips and reminders to help make our graduation ceremony a great celebration for our Senior Class of 2024 and guests:

• Footwear: Graduate seating will be on the grass in front of the Commons. It's fair to say that wearing high heels may not be a good idea. Wear footwear that is comfortable and able to withstand the uneven terrain (or even mud, if it's a little rainy.)

 Please leave balloons, flowers, beach balls, and noisemakers at home or in vehicles. These can block the view of those nearby or cause a disruption or distraction that would take away from the celebratory vibe of the event.

SENIOR END-OF-SCHOOL-YEAR SCHEDULE: We will be conducting our Senior Assembly on Wednesday June 5th. Seniors last day of attending classes will be on Tuesday June 4th. You'll see that the last day for Wa-Hi seniors on campus will be Friday, June 7th. On Friday, our staff is excited to honor all seniors by serving you a special *Senior Breakfast* in the Commons during 1st period. During this breakfast we will be recognizing seniors for various accolades including our Pride in Excellence recipients. The class of 2024 group photo will be taken immediately before the breakfast. The mandatory graduation practice will begin promptly at 1:00 pm.

On Wednesday, **June 5th** we will be conducting our Final Assembly of the year, where we will be recognizing seniors. <u>Seniors will need to be wearing their cap and gowns</u> as they will be traveling to their elementary and middle schools after they exit the assembly.

SENIOR CLASS PICTURE & BREAKFAST: We will begin serving breakfast at 10:00am in the Commons on Friday, June 7th. During the breakfast we will be honoring some of our seniors with a few awards, yearbooks will be handed out, and we will take the class photo around 9:15. This will be a great opportunity to gather as a class, sign yearbooks, share memories and celebrate your accomplishments. Breakfast is optional, but we would like all seniors to be present by 9:00 to listen to directions for the remainder of the day, and to be present for the class picture.

DIPLOMAS: During the graduation ceremony seniors will receive a diploma COVER, but not their official diploma. Diplomas will be available for all graduates to pick up after senior graduation requirements have been reviewed and confirmed, at the main office beginning July 8th, Monday - Thursday, 9:00am-2:00pm. Diplomas will be released to the student or the parent/ guardian only. The senior's name (First Middle Last) that is currently listed in Skyward is what will be printed on senior diplomas. All fines and fees must be paid in order for the diploma to be picked up, so seniors should check in with Mr. Glover or Mrs. Heiser in the main office if they have fines or fees that need to be paid.

FINAL TRANSCRIPTS: Many colleges and employers will request your "final" official transcript. This is the transcript that includes the end of your high school career and confirms you as a graduate if you've met all graduation requirements. Please make sure that you have indicated your enrollment decision in SchoolLinks. This is the location your final transcript will be sent once they are finalized in June. For more information please visit our <u>website</u> by using the link provided.

Also, please be sure to set up your Alumni Account in SchoolLinks in order to access your information/transcripts after graduation. This will require the use of a personal email account.

YEARBOOKS: We will distribute yearbooks to seniors on graduation morning during our *Senior Breakfast* in the Commons. If you haven't yet ordered a yearbook and would like to purchase one,

please stop in to see Mrs. Miller or Mrs. Heiser in the main office as a limited number of yearbooks are still available for purchase. Once those are sold, however, no additional yearbooks will be available.

SUMMER SCHOOL: Summer school is scheduled to run from Monday, June 17th through Friday, July 26th and our counselors are contacting seniors needing additional credits to meet their graduation requirements to assure they are registered for summer school. Please reach out to your counselor if you have any questions about your graduation status.

TECHNOLOGY & TEXTBOOK RETURNS: Seniors will turn in their textbooks to the library whenever they are no longer needed for your classes. Items checked out from your teacher (no barcode on the front) need to be returned to your teacher so please check with your teachers on when they want those items returned.

To prepare for senior chromebook returns in L105, seniors will be asked to

- have enough chromebook charge to turn screen on to show that the device is free from damage
- wrap-up the charging cord
- remove the chromebook from the case at time of return
- clean the screen & keyboard at the library station using Technology provided materials

Please return your Chromebooks and charging cords, textbooks, novels, hotspots, CTE laptops, calculators, etc. to the library as you finish needing the resource, with return of all items by Friday, June 7th at the latest. Please have your Chromebook out of the protective case or blue tote bag as the cases are yours to keep. The library is open from 7:30 AM - 3:45 PM, Monday through Friday. After June 14, items can be returned to the main office. All items must be returned, and fines and fees paid in order to pick up your diploma.

GRADUATION PHOTOS: Photos of each graduate receiving and posing with his/her diploma will be taken by Professional Grad Photos. These photos, as well as a class photo and candid images from throughout the day, will be available to view/purchase within 36-48 hours after Commencement.

To access photo visit: <u>www.ProfessionalGradPhotos.com/Wa-Hi</u>

A link to view photos will also be emailed to each graduate.

SENIOR SCHOOL EMAIL ACCOUNTS ARE LEAVING SOON! Your school-based google accounts will be disappearing in July. Make sure you save any files and records you need! [Click Here] for information on how to save information you need after your graduation.

Again, please be sure to set up your Alumni Account in SchoolLinks in order to access your information/ transcripts after graduation. This will require the use of a personal email account.

SENIOR CLASS PARTY:

The parents of the Class of 2024 need help setting-up or running a station at the Sr. Class party (not district sponsored) at the YMCA on Friday, June 7. Shifts are available for mid-day set-up or that evening after graduation via the <u>Sign-Up Genius</u>. The seniors class party will be from 9:30p - 1a Friday, June 7th at the YMCA. It is open to all WaHi and Opportunity seniors. School ID is required, and no re-entry will be allowed. Come and celebrate! You must be present to win prizes.

Senior Class Party donations & Corporate sponsorship:

Parents continue to plan for a fun and safe graduation party for WaHi & Opportunity seniors. Please use the link below to contribute if your senior plans to attend or share the link if you have family & friends willing to donate. https://givebutter.com/WAHISenior2024

Questions? Email Mr. Schumacher jschumacher@wwps.org