SENIOR

This handbook has been created to help guide you through everything that is associated with graduation. I look forward to seeing our 2025 seniors in person for graduation rehearsal on Friday, June 13.

Best wishes!

Sechin Tower
Principal

GRADUATION HANDBOOK

GRADUATION PRACTICE

Practice will be on **Friday, June 13, at Jackson High School from 9:00 to 1:00** (we may end early). All seniors will be participating in rehearsal at one time. We ask that students arrive to the gym and immediately sit in their assigned seat. If a senior has other commitments or Running Start exams, please notify your counselor. We will have a method communicated on Thursday, June 12, that will include seating assignments. **Students must participate in graduation rehearsal to be a part of the ceremony.** Currently, practice is scheduled to be in the gym and students should start entering at 8:45 a.m. on Friday, June 13.

Students will be in the same seating assignment on graduation day.
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Students' reader cards will be collected after each name has been read during practice.
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Students will have an opportunity to connect with an administrator during practice for name pronunciation.

GRADUATION DAY

Saturday, June 14, 2025
Event starts at 7:00 p.m.
Angel of the Winds Arena
2000 Hewitt Ave
Everett, WA 98201

TICKETS

With our estimated number of graduates, each senior will receive ten (10) tickets for friends and family to attend.

If you cannot distribute tickets to family members before the graduation ceremony, we will have a "Will Call" table at the south parking ticket gate at the venue, where family or friends can pick up their tickets if necessary. All audience members must have a ticket to be admitted.

Graduation tickets will be distributed to seniors on Friday, June 13, during graduation rehearsal.

If families need additional tickets, families can sign up at the main office for additional tickets. Requests will be considered for families to get additional tickets.

ENTRANCE POINTS

All seniors enter the arena through the FOUNTAIN entrance on Hewitt Avenue and report to the assigned section **no later than 6:00 p.m.** Families and other audience members enter through the main doors on the corner of Hewitt and Oakes. The ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m., and nearby parking may be limited if you arrive close to the starting time.

SEATING

Seating for the commencement ceremony at the arena is on a first come, first served basis. Handicapped seating is available—no reservations are necessary. ASL services will be provided and will be in the seating area on the left side of the arena (when facing the stage).

DIRECTIONS & PARKING

Traveling North on I-5

- Exit #192 onto Broadway (exit on the RIGHT side of freeway)
- Head north on Broadway Avenue
- Left onto Hewitt Avenue

Traveling South on I-5

- Exit #194 onto US-2/Everett Avenue
- Use Everett Avenue towards City Center
- Right onto Everett Avenue
- Left onto Broadway Avenue
- Right onto Hewitt Avenue
- Main entrance is at Hewitt and Oakes Avenue

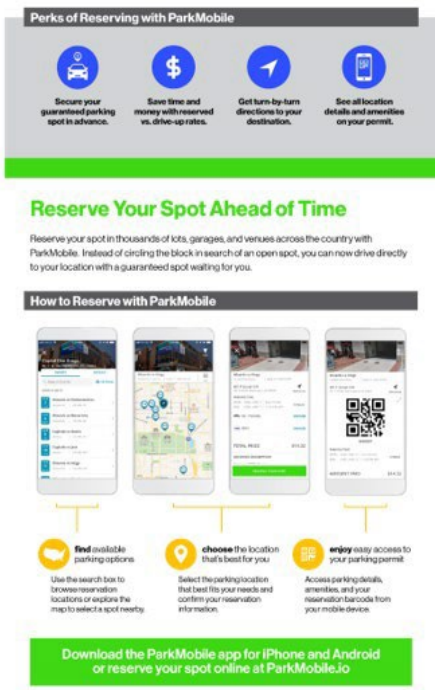
Traveling West on US-2

- Merge onto US-2 West
- Follow signs for Hewitt Avenue
- Right onto Maple Street
- Left onto Everett Avenue
- Left onto Broadway Avenue
- Right onto Hewitt Avenue
- Main entrance is at Hewitt and Oakes Avenue

There are several thousand parking spaces available within walking distance of AOTW Arena. Several parking lots are conveniently located around the perimeter of the facility.

Snohomish County Parking Garage 3000 Rockefeller Avenue Everett, WA 98201 Ph: 425-388-3348	Republic Parking Angel of the Winds Arena Surface Lot 2005 Hewitt Avenue Everett, WA 98201
Volunteers of America Surface Lot 2802 Broadway Everett, WA 98201 Ph: 425.388.3348	Everpark Parking Garage 2825 Hoyt Avenue Everett, WA 98201 Ph: 425.258.0700

Avoid the headache and stress of event parking by making a reservation before you arrive. Park Mobile allows you to make a reservation in app, or visit **parkmobile.io** to reserve a lot near Angel of the Winds Arena.



TIMING

5:00 p.m.	|	Speakers on the stage at Events Center
5:15 p.m.	|	Band and choir arrive at Fountain entrance
5:30 p.m.	|	Seniors enter
6:15 p.m.	|	DOORS OPEN TO PUBLIC at NE entrance
7:00 p.m.	|	Ceremony begins

Musicians, graduates, and staff will arrive through the
Fountain doors to the Arena level

DRESS & DECORUM

Students:
Remember, this is a formal event recognizing the culmination of all your work, so please dress accordingly. Students should wear dark slacks, dark shoes, light shirts, blouses, skirts, dresses, and no jeans or shorts. You are encouraged to wear flats or shoes with low heels.

Caps and gowns will be worn by all participants. The caps should be flat on your head and the tassel on the mortarboard (cap) is worn on the RIGHT side.

In Everett Public Schools, the purpose of honor cords is to recognize academic achievement that demonstrates scholarship. This is demonstrated by students who excel in course offerings and demonstrate a commitment to challenging coursework. The only items that can be worn over the gown are the following approved honor cords and medallions:

- Valedictorian (medallion)
- National Honor Society
- Seal of Biliteracy (medallion)
- 3.5+ GPA
- HOSA
- AA Degree
- FBLA
- AP Scholar (passing score on 3 or more AP exams)
- AP Capstone Candidate
- AVID Honor Cords
- Departmental Scholar (medallion)
- Key Club
- DECA
- Chinese Honors Society

You must have administrative approval if you would like to wear an item of cultural celebratory significance during the ceremony (such as an authentic flower or wooden lei) if appropriate to your custom.

Please DO NOT decorate your cap! If you choose to wear a decorated cap please read this letter regarding the approval process.

Historically, graduating seniors have had the opportunity to individualize their regalia by wearing cords and stoles that recognize academic achievement and cultural significance. Caps and tassels have been considered a symbol of graduating class unity. High school principals and the regional superintendents have now agreed to allow symbols on the graduation cap that represent cultural significance for individual students. The rationale is that it is an extension of a pre-existing allowance by state law for students to wear traditional tribal regalia or objects of Native American cultural significance within their cap and gown ensemble. The qualifiers for what is allowed to be worn at the ceremony are listed below, including what has been allowed in the past.

Commencements are a special time for all of our students and families. We continue to work with students to help us balance the individual and collective spirit of these celebrations.

Graduation regalia

What has been allowed historically:

- Gear provided by the school (cap, gown, school stole, tassel)
- Academic cords
- School provided & approved club cords
- Tribal regalia on caps and gowns per RCW 28A.600.500
- School stoles worn on top; additional stoles acceptable, e.g.,
    - Cultural stoles
    - Sno-Isle National Technical Honor Society stole and tassel
    - Orca program stole
- Gown adornments of cultural significance with prior approval from principal or principal designee provided they:
    - are school appropriate
    - reflect a culture that the student identifies with
    - do not change or replace the school issued items
    - are not potentially disruptive to the ceremony or detrimental to the safety and welfare of other students

(New allowance) Qualifiers for graduation caps will include:

- Only objects of cultural significance may be worn on top of graduation caps and approved by the principal or principal designee
- Cultural symbols will be allowed; **text** will **not** be allowed
- No appropriation of other cultures
- No noise or sound from decorations
- No lights or battery-operated items
- Any symbols must lay flat without exceeding the edges of the cap
- Height extension to cap may not exceed ½ inch
- School tassel must be visible and movable

If a student would like to wear a decorated cap, please follow the following steps:

1. Bring the decorated cap to gradation practice on Friday, June 13
2. Find your assigned seat and keep your cap with you
3. During practice staff will have clear bags labeled with student names to collect the decorated caps
4. ALL decorated caps will go through admin for approval, and will be handed to students after they have been checked in by security on Saturday, June 14th

Students will not be able to turn in decorated caps after 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 13th.
If a student brings a decorated cap to graduation on Saturday, June 14th it will be collected and they will be handed an undecorated green cap, the decorated cap can be picked up from the main office on Tuesday, June 18th during school office hours.

Thank you,

Sechin Tower
Principal

PICTURES & STREAMING

Gradimages will be taking pictures during the duration of the event. It's our objective to capture two images of each graduate, the first being a stage moment, and the second being a portrait.

Direct Site: www.gradimages.com/registration. Families can register contact information. Anyone who registers will get a coupon for 20% off any order of $50 or more.

Families will get an e-mailed link to the proofs typically 1-2 weeks after the ceremony. After placing an order online, the family can expect to receive orders in the mail within two weeks.

Cameras will be allowed in the stands. However, parents and families will not be permitted on the arena floor or stage, nor will seniors be permitted to step out of line for pictures.

LIVE STREAMING: Everett Civic Auditorium YouTube channel, click HERE. A recording will be uploaded on YouTube later

JHS LIVE STREAMING WILL START AT 6:45 p.m.: https://youtu.be/58VHrzIef00

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Graduation is both a ceremony and a celebration. It's important to remember that there is a proper time and place for both! The ceremony itself is to be taken seriously and with an attitude of respect for your accomplishment and for those who have helped you along your journey. The celebration takes place *after* the ceremony and is the time to have fun with family and friends.

Students:
Please silence your cell phones. Do not bring anything with you that would be a distraction from the ceremony. This includes—but is not limited to—beach balls or other inflatable objects, silly string, bouncy balls, or noisemakers. Also, **do not** bring purses or valuables that will not fit in your pockets, as there is no secure storage area during the ceremony for such items.

Audience Members:
We want this to be a very special time for *your* graduate and for *all* the graduates! Please be respectful during all phases of the ceremony—a lot of work has gone into preparing the best experience possible. No oversize bags, clear plastic or vinyl bags no larger than 12"x6"x12"; air horns and artificial noisemakers can be a distraction and are not allowed at the arena. We hope you will give a special cheer for your graduate—and we ask that you **please keep it under 3 seconds** so that the next graduate can hear their own name being read, as well. This, of course, is an important part of the experience!

AFTER THE CEREMONY

At the conclusion of the ceremony, you will be able to meet your graduate outside on Hewitt Ave. Graduates will exit the facility at the entrance they came in and meet you on Hewitt Ave.

The event staff have asked us to remind guests that friends and family members are not permitted onto the arena floor at any time, and that the best place to meet your graduate will be on the upstairs level in the back of the arena.

The Jackson Grad Night Party is a tradition for graduating seniors. The event is sponsored by the Class of 2025 Parent Group and requires pre-registration and payment in advance. It's designed to be the final celebration as a collective group in a safe, sober, supervised, surprise location. The cost includes activities, entertainment, food, bus transportation, security, and prizes.

If you have not yet purchased your Grad Night ticket, please do so ASAP online. Tickets are still available:

https://my.cheddarup.com/c/class-of-2025-parent-group-grad-night-tickets/items

For students who have already registered, an email with details for the night will be going out soon! Don't miss out on the fun!

When does Grad Night happen?

Please arrive at Jackson High School between 10:15pm and 10:30pm on June 14th. Students will be able to park & lock their vehicle overnight in the parking lot, or they can get dropped off/picked up.

Please ONLY bring: your cell phone, a pair of socks, and any medically necessary items. Any medically necessary items must be indicated on your permission slip. Wear or bring a pair of socks for use at the second venue.

We will load the Durham school buses at the JHS main parking lot from 10:30pm-10:45pm and plan to depart Jackson at 10:45pm on June 14. We will return to JHS on June 15 at 5:15am. Pre-registered students and families will be provided with additional information prior to graduation. Chaperones will be notified with a final itinerary and information 24 hours prior. Students will be allowed to have their cell phones with them throughout the party.

What's included?

All food, beverages, and activities will be provided for students and chaperones in attendance; no additional cash or cards are needed. A late dinner will be served, and an early breakfast will also be served.

All food, beverages, and fun activities during a night spent at two SURPRISE venues, with transportation there and back to JHS the next morning. Students depart the school late on June 14th and return around 5:15am on Sunday, June 15th.

What if my student has special dietary or medical needs?

Please let us know if your student has any special needs so we can address it with our vendor ahead of time and work to confidentially facilitate your student's experience. During the registration process we ask for dietary restrictions.

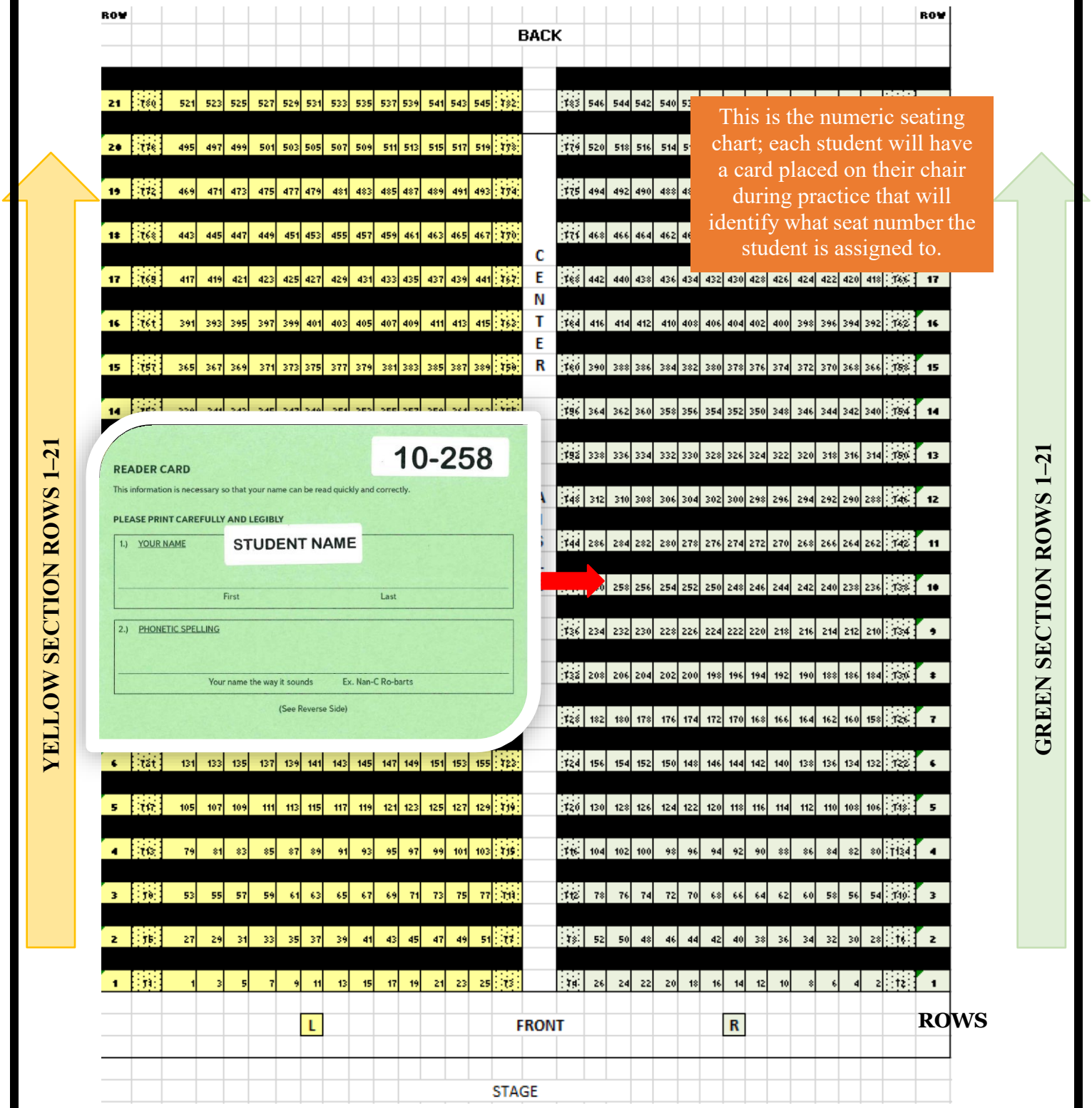
What to bring:

Graduates are asked to wear comfortable clothes that they can be active in (avoid dresses/skirts). Bring a light jacket or sweater. Be sure to wear or bring socks with you. No outside food or drinks are allowed. No refunds will be issued. It will be a long night, be comfortable! Cell phones are allowed.

Contact info. and other resources:

We can be reached at JHS2025parentgroup@gmail.com Also, check out the official JHS Senior Page at www.everettsd.org/Page/13556 for key information. Please reach out to us at the email listed above if you have any further questions. You can also follow us on Instagram @jhsgradnight2025 or request to join our Facebook group by searching "Jackson Class of 2025 Parent Group

SEATING ASSIGNMENTS



This is the numeric seating chart; each student will have a card placed on their chair during practice that will identify what seat number the student is assigned to.

Students will be in the same seating assignment on graduation day.

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Student reader cards will be collected after each name has been read during practice.

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Students will have an opportunity to connect with an administrator during practice for name pronunciation.