

HENRY M. JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

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April 30, 2021

2021 Commencement Ceremony Update

Dear 2021 seniors and senior families:

It has been wonderful to have so many of our students back in our building, and especially our seniors. We know that this has been a different year and we are all so impressed with your positive attitudes, resilience, honesty, and growth mindset. I am pleased to let you know we are able to celebrate you and include your family and friends even in the midst of the COVID restrictions.

We will be holding our graduation at Memorial Stadium at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 19. Snohomish County is currently in Phase 3 of the state's COVID phasing, which will allow for 2,500 spectators in the stadium with social distancing, masking, and COVID protocols in place. Even if the county gets moved back to Phase 2, we will still be able to have this number of spectators and be at Memorial Stadium according to the state's graduation guidelines.

With our estimated number of graduates, each senior will receive four (4) tickets for friends and family to attend. Household members will sit together and be socially distanced from other families by the indicators on the bleachers.

Seniors will be socially distanced sitting on the field, walking across the stage, receiving a diploma cover, and participating in a processional. We will continue our Jackson tradition by having speakers and performances.

We know an outdoor graduation has the unknown factor of weather, but if we were to hold the graduation indoors our attendees would be greatly limited. For instance, at the Angel of the Winds Arena, we would be limited to 600 guests, which would only allow one ticket per graduate. We heard very clearly from our families and seniors that having family attendance at graduation was a high priority.

We will be sending out more information as we get closer to the big day but wanted you to know this information now so you can make family plans. There will also be information and graduation FAQs posted on our website. We are excited our seniors will have a special day to commemorate their great accomplishments.

Thank you for your involvement and for the input we have received. Please visit the <u>FAQ</u> page on the district site. We will do all we can to make this graduation a truly special and memorable event for our Class of 2021!

Lance Balla Principal