



Westlake High School

2020-21 GRADUATION INFORMATION

There are just a few short weeks of school left before graduation. We are beyond excited to be able to hold graduation and graduation activities this year. Please read through the following information and refer back to it often—things are constantly updating.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Grade make-up work must be completed by Wednesday, May 26th at 2:45pm. If you have questions about this, please contact your student's counselor.

CAP & GOWNS

Cap and gowns have been distributed. If you missed the date and still need to pick up a cap, tassel, and/or gown, you can do so by paying the finance office \$50 for the cap, tassel and gown, \$25 for the cap and tassel, or \$16 for a tassel only. Graduates also need to pick up a stole, which will be collected after the Commencement Exercises. All graduates will be wearing the proper attire, BOYS: Navy blue cap and gown, with light blue stole, and GIRLS: Light blue cap and gown with navy blue stole. Tassels will start on the right side of the cap, and when prompted to graduates will move them to the left side.

LEIS, CORDS, MEDALS, & SASHES

- Leis CANNOT be worn during graduation
- Honor Cords (gold) can be worn IF graduate paid for and received them from the Westlake Finance Office. Two cords for high honor roll (3.9-4.0), and one cord for honor roll (3.7-3.899).
- National Honors Society cords can be worn—boys wear light blue, and girls wear dark blue.
- Sterling Scholar (silver) cords can be worn IF graduate received them at Senior Evening of Excellence. One cord for each Sterling Scholar, and 2 for Sterling Scholar State Finalists.
- ALL medals can be worn IF graduate received them at any one of our four awards nights—Fine Arts Gala, CTE Awards Night, Senior Evening of Excellence, or Thunder Awards.
- Sashes other than the stole which was given at Cap & Gown distribution cannot be worn.

CORDS

Honor cords are being handed out at the finance office window. They are \$6 each. Seniors who earn a full 28-credit diploma are eligible for honor cords. Those that have a cumulative GPA of 3.9 – 4.0 can receive two (2) gold cords, while those that have a cumulative GPA of 3.7 – 3.899 can receive one (1) gold cord. A letter has been mailed home for those who are eligible. An alphabetized list is also posted on the front office window.

THUNDER SCHOLARS (Top 10%)

Thunder Scholars will receive a medal to wear at graduation. Receiving this award is a very high honor and should be awarded for their academic successes. This is calculated using a student's ACT score, GPA, and the number of AP and Concurrent classes taken. The top 10% of Thunder Scholars will be awarded and recognized at a point during graduation, while the top 5% will be awarded and recognized by sitting on the stand throughout graduation. The list of Thunder Scholars is posted on the front office window as well as a congratulatory letter was sent personally to each one.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

The last photo opportunity is Wednesday, May 12th. The giant hammer and W, along with the big blow up Thor will be set up in the commons area from 9am-1pm. Parents and graduates are welcome to come during that time and take pictures. You will not be allowed on the field at Rio Tinto Stadium at graduation for pictures, so you may want to take advantage of this opportunity.

RECOGNITION NIGHTS

- Fine Arts Gala–Tuesday, May 18th @ 7pm in the auditorium
- CTE Awards Night–Wednesday, May 19th @ 7pm in the auditorium
- Senior Evening of Excellence–Thursday, May 20th @ 7pm in the auditorium
- Thunder Awards–Tuesday, May 26th @ 6:30 in the auditorium

GRADUATION PRACTICE

Graduation practice will be on Wednesday, May 19th at 9am in the outside stadium. **ALL STUDENTS PLANNING ON WALKING AT GRADUATION MUST ATTEND THIS MEETING.** Instructions for graduation will be given only at this time.

GRADUATION DAY

Graduation will be held on Thursday, May 27th at 4pm at Rio Tinto Stadium (9256 South State Street, Sandy, UT) There is NO limit on how many spectators we can have!!! Here are some important things you need to know about this venue.

- You will be going through security. Rio Tinto has a clear bag policy, meaning that ALL items brought into the stadium must be in a clear bag no larger than 14" X 14" X 6".
- No food may be brought into the stadium. You may bring one (1) factory sealed water bottle per person.
- No signs, confetti, umbrellas, air horns, or other items listed on their [website](#). They will be issuing fines to individuals who violate their rules.
- Parking is very limited. You may want to consider riding TRAX.
- Parent entrance is on the West side of the stadium. Graduates will enter at the northwest corner.
- The program will be livestreamed if you have family and friends that cannot attend in person.

Graduates should arrive by 3pm dressed in appropriate clothing. Graduates will enter the northwest gate, walk up the stairs to the concourse on the north end of the stadium. Tickets are not required for seating. No one is allowed on the field during the ceremony, including photographers. If you have a graduate in light blue gowns (girls), they will enter and be seated on the west side of the field. If you have a graduate in navy blue gowns (boys), they will enter and be seated on the east side of the stadium. At the end of the commencement exercise, graduates will leave out of the south gate.

DIPLOMA PICK-UP

Diplomas can be picked up for those graduates, who have completed the graduation requirements, that morning, May 27th from 10am-12pm in the WHS commons area. Diplomas will not be handed out at Rio Tinto Stadium–only the blank diploma covers. If you do not pick up your diploma at that time, they will be available in the counseling office in June, Monday – Friday, 8am-12pm.

SENIOR END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

As we celebrate the Class of 2021, there are upcoming events that are happening we hope all seniors will be part of. Tickets to all activities are available in the Westlake Finance Office. Tickets can also be purchased online. The activities are as follows:

- **Senior Field/Game Day** on Friday, May 14th at 1pm on the grass field by the auxiliary gyms. This activity is full of games and fun, as well as the traditional painting of the "W". This will last until approximately 3pm.
- Yearbook Early Distribution for Seniors will be on Wednesday, May 19th from 11am – 12:30pm at the north auxiliary gym doors.
- **Senior Sunset/Yearbook Signing Party** on Wednesday, May 19th seniors will have a chance to get together to sign each other's yearbooks. The senior sunset is a new tradition that will be held in the Westlake stadium. There will be treats and games. This event is free of charge and will go from 7–9pm.
- **Senior Lagoon Day** on Friday, May 21st. The cost is \$54. Buses will leave Westlake at 8am and return around 6pm (the park closes at 4pm). Private vehicles will not be allowed in the park—students must ride the bus to and from Lagoon. Students are required to bring their own money with them for lunch and food. **TICKETS ARE PRESALE ONLY AND MUST BE PURCHASED FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE. NO EXCEPTIONS OR REFUNDS WILL BE GRANTED.** There is a limited number of seats on the buses so don't wait to buy your ticket. **STUDENTS MUST BE CLEARED FOR GRADUATION IN ORDER TO ATTEND LAGOON DAY!**
- **Senior Dinner** is on Saturday, May 22nd at Loveland Living Planet Aquarium from 6:30–10pm. Seniors can walk around the aquarium prior to dinner. Dinner will be buffet style served at 7pm. Awards will start at 8:30pm. This is not a date but is semi-formal and is for WHS seniors only. This event includes an amazing dinner, followed by a night of awards and fun. Tickets to this event must be purchased in the finance office—no exceptions or refunds will be granted. **TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.** Parents can send baby pictures to whssrclass@gmail.com by 5/14 to be included in the slideshow. The cost is \$42.
- **All-Night Grad Party** is on Thursday, May 27th – Friday, May 28th. Check-in begins at 9:15pm at Westlake. Buses will leave at 9:45pm. Seniors will travel by bus to All Star Bowling Lanes in West Jordan. Activities include bumper cars, bowling, arcade, virtual reality and more. It also includes a buffet of food. The buffet will be served from 11pm–12:30am. Buses will return to Westlake at approximately 3am on Friday, May 28th. **STUDENTS MUST RIDE THE BUS TO AND FROM THE VENUE—NO EXCEPTIONS!** The cost is \$52.

PARKING

Parking is available in the large parking lot on the West side of the stadium and additional parking is located on the North side. If those lots are full, overflow parking will be available at Jordan Commons, in the north lot, lower two levels. Parking at the Expo Center is parking at your own risk. Please try and limit the number of vehicles going to Rio Tinto. Again, TRAX is another great option.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021!