



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts

Morton School District #214
Home of the Timberwolves!

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Facebook: @MortonSchoolDistrict214 ~ Twitter: @MSD21214

Morton Jr/Sr High School

152 Westlake Ave. ~ Morton, WA, 98356
p: 360-496-5137 ~ f: 360-496-6035

Morton Elementary School

400 Main Ave. ~ Morton, WA, 98356
p: 360-496-5143 ~ f: 360-496-0327

Public Service Announcement

Date: May 7th, 2020

RE: Graduation

To: Graduating Seniors, Family, and Friends

The District, in conjunction with a committee consisting of graduating seniors, parents, and staff has made a decision on graduation for the class of 2020. The decision is to move forward with a June ceremony rather than postpone in order to provide our seniors closure to their senior year and let them move on with their lives post-high school.

Current social distancing regulations prohibit a traditional graduation ceremony in our gym, and it is unknown when these regulations might change. Recent information provided by the Governor through his risk assessment dashboard, and by OSPI in statewide meetings suggests that we cannot expect social distancing to be lifted by early June. This not only eliminates our traditional ceremony, but also other alternatives that would violate both the six-foot distancing and the group size of five as required.

Our committee looked at several options and chose one that we felt is the most personal to our graduates and gives families the most freedom in whom they wish to have at the ceremony. Below are details of how graduation will take place:

- **Each graduate will have the opportunity to have their graduation at their home.**
- **Graduates and their families may have more than one graduate at any home if they choose to do so.**
- **The district will convert their flatbed truck into a traveling stage and arrive at each graduate's home to perform a ceremony for the graduate.**
- **This type of ceremony will allow families to invite family and friends to their house if they choose to do so.**
- **The ceremony will include:**
 - **Inviting the graduate up to the stage in their cap and gown.**
 - **Presentation of any awards and scholarships for the graduate.**
 - **A few quick remarks from the superintendent and board member.**
 - **Presentation of the diploma.**

We are asking for each graduate or family to go to the following address and complete the graduation planner. This information will help us in planning our route, dates, and times. Here is the link:

shorturl.at/oqyC3

The Morton School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator/ADA Coordinator/Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator and Superintendent John Hannah, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, 98356, 360-496-5300, jhannah@morton.k12.wa.us, or Section 504 Coordinator Becky Brooks, 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA, 98356, 360-496-5137, bbrooks@morton.k12.wa.us.

Graduation ceremonies will take place on the following dates and times:

- Thursday, June 4th, 4 PM to 8 PM
- Friday, June 5th, 4 PM to 8 PM
- Saturday, June 6th, 11 AM to 8 PM
- Sunday, June 7th, 11 AM to 5 PM

In the link above, we are asking graduates and their families to rank their choices for when they would like to have their ceremony; however, planning for over thirty graduates does not guarantee that anyone gets their preferred choices.

If there are families who want to host multiple graduates at their home, that is possible. Filling out the link above has a place to let us know who will be at which addresses.