



Marysville School District

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

May 19, 2020

Dear Marysville School District Class of 2020 Students and Families,

We are writing to provide an update regarding graduation. The decision to move to a virtual graduation ceremony was made in light of the current stay-at-home orders, social distancing requirements, and restrictions on large gatherings. This very difficult decision was made with the safety of our students, staff, families, and community in mind. The district is working with a local video production company to film, produce, and publish a virtual graduation ceremony at a later date. The filming dates will take place on the following dates and times:

- Legacy High School: Tuesday, May 26, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Heritage High School: Tuesday, May 26, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Marysville Getchell and Marysville Pilchuck High Schools: Friday, May 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As much as we would like families and friends to participate in the filming events, we have received guidance from the Washington State Department of Health that only students will be permitted to participate in the graduation filming. Each high school will share logistical information prior to their filming date. To the extent possible, the virtual graduation ceremony will replicate as many components of an in-person graduation ceremony, including student speeches, honors and student recognition, etc. The ceremony will be streamed for families to view from the comfort and safety of their own homes approximately two weeks after the day of filming. Although we know an in-person ceremony is everyone's preference, in order to provide each student the opportunity to be recognized at this significant milestone, we must plan immediately to execute a virtual ceremony.

Although we will not get to personally shake our seniors' hands and congratulate them as they proudly walk across the stage, we are comforted by these words from Roy Bennett: *"Keep Going. Your hardest times often lead to the greatest moments of your life. Keep going. Tough situations build strong people in the end."* The strength and perseverance of the Class of 2020 will live forever in our hearts. Our district and our school board members are proud of each of our students for their strength, passion, and their capacity to hope, dream, and fight for a better world.

Sincerely,

Jason Thompson
Superintendent

Lori Knudson
Executive Director of K-12 Schools