



Wasco Union High School District

"Believing in Educational Excellence for All"

RUSVEL PRADO, Principal

WASCO INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL
1445 Poso Drive, Wasco, CA 93280
(661) 758-7450 • Fax (661) 758-7451

May 1, 2023

Dear Parent and Potential Graduate:

We are writing this letter to inform you of the graduation procedures, which includes information about the ceremony, cap & gown, dress code, etc. Please read this over carefully. **This letter does NOT guarantee that your student is graduating. If you would like more information on your student's graduation status please contact our counselor, Miss Gonzalez.**

The graduation ceremony will be held on **Friday, May 26 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Wasco High School Football field. Please be advised that **all fees** owed to the Wasco Union High School District **must** be paid in full prior to the graduation ceremony in order to participate.

If you are planning on participating in the graduation ceremony please be aware of the following procedures:

Cap & Gowns – Cap & gowns will be ready for pick up on **Monday May 22nd -Wednesday May 24th** between 8:00am-3:00pm. If you have not yet ordered your cap & gown and wish to participate in the graduation ceremony, you will have to place your order through Josten's in Bakersfield. However, the price may be slightly higher. Their business phone number is (661) 324-8529. You may also search for a cap and gown online. (Cap and gown-all black, tassel-white, black and royal blue)

Dress Code – The dress code for the ceremony is as follows:

Graduates should wear business casual attire.

Examples include: Slacks, dress shirt, dress shoes. Dresses, suit pants, skirts, blouses, walking shoes. (No heels please!)

NO shorts, Jeans, tank tops, halter-tops, hats, sneakers, or flip-flops!

NO decorations allowed on the top of your graduation cap!

Pictures –Every graduate will have their photo taken. All photos will be sold through *Collegiate Studios* make sure to give a proper email for contact reference as that is how they will send you package details. All contact information must be provided to front office.

Limited Access (Guests) – It is important that you understand that attendance will be limited to you and guests of your choice. You will receive 8 tickets for guest to sit in football stands. **All grads will receive a name card that will be required to enter the gate.** There will be NO exceptions to this limitation. If you have questions, please contact the school office. Students will be provided one graduation name card which will be required to present at the gate to enter the graduation ceremony. ***Name cards and tickets will be available for pick up on May 22nd – May 24th between 8:00am-3:00pm.***

Pre-ceremony procedures and details

a. Parking for Grads/Families (1 vehicle per grad) will be available along Palm Avenue (diagonal parking as is customary for football games) and the Student Parking Lot (5th & Poplar).

b. Gates will open at 8:15 AM (Palm Avenue and the Student Parking Lot).

c. If you arrive prior to 8:15 AM, a line will be monitored.

LIVESTREAM of ceremony will be available - your family and friends who are not invited to attend the ceremony with you should plan to join the livestream of the ceremony which will be made available by the school. Details will be delivered to you in a separate email regarding how to access that live stream program. NOTE: law enforcement will monitor the perimeter of the football field along Palm Ave and 5th St to prevent any pedestrian traffic on the sidewalk. Please make sure your family understands that if they are not one of your guests, they should not come to the school, but rather plan to watch the livestream event from home.

Ceremony ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

a. Each graduation student must have their NAME CARD for entry.

b. All guest will be required to provide a ticket for entry.

c. Seating is unassigned. When you arrive at your seat, please remain seated.

*NOTE: At the conclusion of the ceremony, the EAST side of seating will exit towards the Gate at the Student Parking Lot and the WEST side of seating will exit towards the Gate on Palm Ave. You might want to plan your seating according to where you park your vehicle.

2100 Seventh Street, Wasco, CA 93280
(661) 758-8447 • Fax (661) 758-4946 • www.wascouhsd.org



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SPECIAL NEEDS requests - if you have special needs due to a disability which requires special attention, please contact the office at (661)-758-7450 to discuss how we can best serve you.

CEREMONY PROCEDURES

At the beginning of the ceremony, a demonstration will be provided to provide you with a guide for how to proceed (row by row dismissal) to the staging area for the traditional reading of your name, distribution of your diploma cover, and official graduation photo. It is important to remember that you will need your NAME CARD at this time. *[Personal photos are only allowed to be taken from the seated position. --- Guests are not allowed to stand or move from their seats.]*

POST CEREMONY PROCEDURES

- As soon as the ceremony concludes, graduates and guests will be dismissed row by row and exit the field through the gate to which they are directed (east side towards the Student Parking Lot, west side towards Palm Avenue).
- At the conclusion of the ceremony, no loitering on campus will be allowed.
- Diplomas may be picked up after graduation until 11:30am at the Wasco Independence High campus. Any graduates that did not pick up diploma may pick up their diploma on May 30th-June 1st between 8:00am-12:00pm. If you have any questions you may contact our office at (661)-758-7450.

NOTE - there will be limited restroom availability for emergency use only.

Graduation Disclaimer

If you are suspected of having consumed alcohol or any other illegal substance you will be subject to examination. If you appear to be under the influence, you will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony. Your graduation ceremony is to honor you and all your fellow classmates who have made great sacrifices in order to receive a high school education. We will expect nothing short of exceptional behavior from you and your guests. No obstructed noises will be allowed during the ceremony.

Graduates not participating in the graduation ceremony may pick up their diploma on May 30th-June 1st between 8:00am-12:00pm in the front office. If someone else will be picking up your diploma, you **must** contact our office to notify who will be picking it up. **This is the only diploma you will receive.** If your diploma is lost or stolen, we cannot replace it.

Please remember that all student fees/debts must be paid to the Wasco Union High School District prior to the graduation ceremony or to receive your diploma. Please check with our office to assure that your debt to the WUHSD is zeroed.

Our office will be open for diploma pick-ups until **June 1st**. Diplomas not picked up by **June 1st** may be picked up **after August 1st**. If you have any questions regarding the information listed above, please contact our office at 758-7450.

Thank you,

Rusvel Prado
WIHS Principal

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