



# Hermiston High School

600 South First Street Hermiston, OR 97838 Phone: 541-667-6100  
Principal: Tom Spoo, Assistant Principals: Scott Depew, Michael Thomas, Ericka Keefauver,  
District Athletic Director: Larry Usher

## From the Dawhouse to your House

## UPCOMING DATES



### 2019-2020 Graduation

Parents of seniors, Congratulations! We are almost there. The hard work that you have put in for the past 17-18 years has almost paid off. Our students, your sons and daughters, are ready for the next chapter in their lives, whether that be college, military, trade school or the workforce. We are excited to see them become productive citizens in society.

Graduation will be on **June 6, 2019**

**starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Toyota Center in Kennewick, Washington.** Students participating in the ceremony will ride the bus from Hermiston, departing from the high school at 4:45 p.m.

Additional transportation will be provided for parents and family members who need it. A Google signup form is available on the high school website. To reserve your spot, you will need to sign up by May 22<sup>nd</sup>. These buses will depart from the high school at 5:15 p.m.



The Project Graduation Party will occur on June 6, 2019, following the graduation ceremony. Students will load busses at the Toyota Center at 9:00 p.m. and travel to the Tri-City Court Club. Students participating in the Project Graduation Party will have to ride the buses and sign up in advance by May 31. This can be done in room 272, with Mr. Wells. Lastly, seniors participating in the Project Graduation Party must wear their **Project Graduation Party t-shirt** to gain admittance into the Project Graduation Party.

We look forward to this important milestone in your student's life and the access that this venue will give to all the friends and family who want to witness the event.

### Point of Interest: Arguments that help students make learning a top priority

*"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you."*—B.B. King

The **first** argument for learning being a top priority is that learning makes every student more powerful and influential. This exceptional reward comes with making the choice and commitment to learn. Learning also gives students access to a wider variety of options when they face conflict, engage in important conversations, and need to convince others of the merits of their ideas.

**Second**, the impact of what we learn now grows over time—like all good investments. Remarkably, learning a new skill, mastering a concept, or building learning habits shifts the trajectory of our lives upward.

**Third**, focusing on learning allows us to worry less about other factors, such as grades, college, and even a career. The chances of finding success in college or a job grow as our focus today remains on learning.

**Fourth**, learning helps us experience self-respect. As we learn, we begin to see ourselves as people we can be proud of. We also begin to take pride in our growing capacity and the opportunities we are creating for ourselves. We never feel as though we need to hide, make excuses, or apologize for our lack of knowledge. Learning empowers us to present ourselves as worthy and confident people.

- 5.8.19: Evening of Excellence
- 5.11.19: Saturday Support
- May 6-17: AP Testing
- 5.13.19: FFA Banquet
- 5.15.19: Baccalaureate
- 5.15.19: OTP Annual Research Night
- 5.18.19: Saturday Support
- 5.21.19: NHS Induction Ceremony
- 5.22.19: Senior Class Meeting
- 5.22.19: Blood Drive
- 5.25.19: Saturday Support
- 5.28.19: HHS Chamber Choir Concert
- 5.29.19: HHS Jazz/Percussion Concert
- 5.30.19: HHS Band Concert

**Fifth**, the more we learn, the better able we are to learn more. Learning is a skill. The more we develop and practice it, the easier it becomes and the better we become at doing it. Learning, like most skills, is most difficult during the time when we are developing it.

## **Summer School Invitations**

We will be offering summer school **June 17 through June 28, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in order for students to stay on track for graduation. Students are invited to attend based on specific academic needs. The targeted sessions will focus on the following skills:

- Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders (awarding .5 elective credit)
  - Foundations of Algebra
  - Expository and Narrative Writing
  - Freshman Success
- Incoming 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> graders
  - Algebra and Geometry
  - Expository Reading and Writing
  - Fundamentals of Math and Writing
- Incoming 12<sup>th</sup> graders
  - Credit Recovery
  - Essential Skills work samples in Reading, Writing, and/or Math



Breakfast and lunch will be served and bussing will be available. Please call Mid-Columbia Bus Company at (541)567-0551 after June 10<sup>th</sup> for pick-up/drop-off location and times for your address. We're excited to be able to offer this opportunity for our students in the hopes that they will be more prepared and successful during the upcoming school year.

## **Counseling Department**

Graduation is a time to celebrate. But before your high school seniors begin their parties, take the time to talk with them about keeping events alcohol-free—it just may save a life. No amount of underage drinking is legal or safe. And we know that any underage drinking can lead to consuming too much alcohol, which may result in poor decisions, injuries, alcohol overdose, and possibly death.

### **It's About Your Teen...**

A teenager's brain is still developing, and it is very sensitive to alcohol's effects on judgment and decision-making. Tragedies can—and do—happen, so underage drinking should not be a part of any end-of-year celebration.

### **The Effects of Alcohol Can Be Deceptive...**

If you are asked to explain the reasons behind your rules, you can describe the effects of alcohol on the human body:

When people drink alcohol, they may temporarily feel elated and happy, but they should not be fooled. As blood alcohol level rises, the effects on the body—and the potential risks—multiply.

- Inhibitions and memory become affected, so people may say and do things that they will regret later and possibly not remember doing at all.
- Decision-making skills are affected, so people may be at greater risk for driving under the influence—and risking an alcohol-related traffic crash—or making unwise decisions about sex.
- Aggression can increase, potentially leading to everything from verbal abuse to physical fights.
- Coordination and physical control are also impacted. When drinking leads to loss of balance, slurred speech, and blurred vision, even normal activities can become more dangerous.
- Consumption of a dangerously high amount of alcohol can also lead to alcohol overdose and death.
- Vulnerability to overdose increases if the teen is already on a sedative-hypnotic or pain medication. When people drink too much, they may eventually pass out (lose consciousness). Reflexes like gagging and breathing can be suppressed. That means people who have had too much alcohol could vomit and choke, or just stop breathing completely.

### **Think About It!**

Drinking to celebrate graduation can result in vandalism, arrests, sexual assaults, injuries and trips to the emergency room, alcohol-related traffic crashes, and worse. Drinking by teens can put them—and their friends—in real danger. Ask them to consider this question: Is that any way to celebrate?

### **Talk With Your Graduate...**

It is critical to talk with your graduate because research shows that parents do make a difference. By serving as a positive role model, talking with other parents and your teens, supervising parties to make sure no alcohol is served, and supporting alcohol-free school celebrations, you can help prevent a life-changing mistake.

<https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/GraduationFacts/graduationFact.htm>