



# Jack Yates High School

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**Stephanie Square, Principal**

Dear HISD Spring 2025 Parents and Guardians:

As we approach the culmination of your student's high school journey, we are excited to share details about the upcoming Spring 2025 Graduation Ceremony. This milestone marks a moment of pride, accomplishment, and celebration—not just for our graduates, but for the families, educators, and supporters who have guided them along the way.

To ensure a smooth and dignified ceremony, we ask for your support in adhering to the established district guidelines regarding check-in procedures, dress codes, guest expectations, and security protocols. These policies are designated to maintain a respectful and safe environment where each graduate can be honored appropriately.

## Graduation Details:

- **Date:** Saturday, June 7, 2025
- **Venue:** Delmar Fieldhouse)
- **Venue Address:** 2020 Mangum Rd, Houston, TX 77092
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m.

## Graduation Requirements and Procedures

### Student Requirements

Only students who have fully met all academic obligations will be eligible to walk in the graduation ceremony. To participate in the spring commencement ceremony, students must:

- Successfully complete all required credits and meet all state requirements by the last day of school, June 4th.
- No coursework, Individual Graduation Committee (IGC) assignments, or attendance appeals will be accepted after this date.

### Check-in Procedures

- Graduates must arrive one hour before the ceremony for check-in.
- Upon arrival, graduates will be required to pass through weapon detectors or undergo screening with security wands.
- School representatives will guide graduates to line up and proceed to their designated seats.

**Dress Code Requirements**

- Caps and gowns are mandatory for entry into the ceremony.
- Appropriate attire must be worn under academic regalia.
- Modest heels are recommended, as graduates will navigate steps and ramps.

**Approved Accessories:**

Graduates may wear the following accessories:

- Academic medals and athletic achievement earned in high school.
- Honor cords representing academic excellence, clubs, or honor societies.
- HISD ribbons awarded for specific accomplishments.
- Graduation stoles approved by the campus principal or designee.
- Decorated or personalized graduation caps with prior approval from the principal or designee.

**Additional Information**

- **Electronic devices, including cell phones, are not permitted on the venue floor.**
- For cap and gown orders, please contact your campus graduation representative.
- Students are responsible for obtaining their own graduation announcements.

**Guest Information****Tickets, Seating, and Parking**

- Attendance is limited, and all guests (ages 3 and up) must have a ticket at Delmar and Barnett venues. Children must be seated with a responsible adult.
- Graduates do not need a ticket to enter through the designated graduate entrance.
- Seating is determined by each venue's capacity. Specific ticketing information will be provided by your campus.

**Parking Information**

- **NRG Stadium:** Parking is \$25.00 plus tax, and payment must be made via debit or credit card only. No cash accepted.
  - Guests attending graduation at NRG should enter Gate 9 on Kirby Drive. HISD Police and parking attendants will direct traffic.
- **Barnett and Delmar Fieldhouse:** Parking is free at these venues.

HISD Police and additional law enforcement will be on-site to assist with traffic flow and directions.

**Live Streaming**

HISD will not provide a virtual viewing option for the graduation ceremonies. However, recorded ceremonies will be available for later viewing on the HISD Spring 2025 Graduation website:

 <https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/205265>.

**Safety And Security**

- HISD Police and additional law enforcement will be present for security and traffic control.
- First aid stations will be available on-site for any medical needs.

**Bag Policy and Screening Measures**

- All guests will be required to pass through weapon detectors and/or be screened with security wands.
- To expedite entry, guests are encouraged not to bring bags. If a bag is necessary, the following are permitted:
  - A clear bag (maximum size: 12" x 6" x 12"), or
  - A small clutch (maximum size: 4.5" x 6.5")
- All bags are subject to search upon entry.

**Prohibited Items**

Bringing prohibited items or engaging in inappropriate behavior may result in denied entry or removal from the venue. The following are not allowed:

- Disorderly conduct
- Smoking or vaping
- Alcohol or drugs
- Firearms, explosives, or weapons
- Laser pointers, drones
- Littering or use of glitter
- Noisemakers (e.g., air horns, cowbells, whistles)
- Flowers, bouquets, balloons, signs, banners, flags, beach balls, confetti, or streamers
- Any item obstructing another guest's view
- Outside food and drinks (exception: clear water bottles as needed for health reasons)
- Wandering into restricted areas
- Any item deemed inappropriate by Houston ISD staff

**Behavioral Standards****❖ For Graduates**

Graduation is a formal occasion that marks a significant milestone. Maintaining discipline and decorum ensures a meaningful celebration for all graduates and their families. Graduates are expected to conduct themselves with dignity and respect throughout the ceremony, including:

- During assembly and line-up
- Throughout the processional and recessional
- While crossing the stage to receive their diploma

To maintain the integrity of the ceremony, the following behaviors are strictly prohibited:

- Poses, flips, dances, pranks, or hand gestures (except for a handshake while receiving the diploma).

**❖ For Guests**

We kindly ask all guests to support a respectful and orderly environment by following these guidelines:

- Refrain from excessive cheering, yelling, or screaming – every family deserves the chance to hear their graduate's name called.
  - Remain seated for the entire ceremony, including during the presentation of diplomas and the recessional.
  - Silence all cell phones and refrain from phone conversations during the ceremony.
  - Do not toss objects in the air, as this can cause disruption and safety hazards.
  - Guests are not permitted in the graduate staging area or on the event floor at any time.
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We look forward to celebrating this important milestone with you. Your hard work, perseverance, and dedication deserve to be recognized in a dignified and memorable ceremony. Thank you for your cooperation in making this a meaningful event for all.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Square  
Principal, Jack Yates High School  
Houston Independent School District