



Westside High School

Class of 2023

Graduation Information

Graduation for Westside High School

The Westside High School Class of 2023 will graduate Saturday, June 3rd at 12:00 p.m. at NRG Stadium. The ceremony will recognize the members of the class as they receive their diplomas and complete their high school education. Families and guests do NOT need a ticket to attend graduation. The ceremony should last no more than 2 hours.

Appropriate Dress

Caps and gowns will be distributed during senior checkout May 25-26. The gown should be hung on a hanger to help remove the wrinkles. The cap should have a tassel worn on the right side before graduation.

- Seniors cannot carry their cellphones into the ceremony. Seniors should leave their cell phone with a family member or a friend in the audience.
- Seniors are expected to wear at least “business casual dress” clothes and “dress” shoes (no tennis shoes) with their gown. Jeans are not acceptable.
- The only graduation regalia that the graduate is allowed to wear around their necks are the approved stoles, cords, and/or senior honors night medals supplied by Westside High School. If there are questions about the acceptable regalia, contact Ms. Turner.
- Any non-Westside HS regalia purchased or made (money leis, sashes, stoles, adornments) will be collected prior to the senior entering the graduation floor.
- Nothing is to be taken into the arena under the gown that will be brought out later to distract from the ceremony. Examples: noise makers, balloons, beachballs, etc.
- Seniors are not allowed to have a cell phone with them during the graduation ceremony. It will be collected by a Westside Faculty member.
- To enter the graduate check-in, Seniors are expected to bring their photo ID.
- Seniors will go through a metal detector which will detect cell phones. Seniors will be asked to take the cell phone to their car or give to a family member. Seniors will not be allowed entry into the gate.

Pictures

There will be a professional photographer on stage to take a picture as the diploma is presented to each graduate. Parents will be given the opportunity to purchase a copy of the picture. It is our hope that family members will be able to relax and enjoy the ceremony and not worry about taking pictures since these professional pictures will be available. Family members will not be able to go onto the floor to take personal

pictures. Approximately a week after graduation, a direct link will be added to the Westside website www.WestsideWolves.org and the link will allow families to view and purchase the Legacy photos.

Behavior of Seniors

Seniors are asked to enter NRG carrying only their cap and gown and car keys if applicable. No electronic devices will be allowed including cell phones, iPads, etc. You will be told to take these items back to your car, so do not try to bring them in. HISD security will be screening all seniors as they enter the stadium. Do not bring in any prohibited items that you would not be allowed to have at school such as pocketknives, tobacco products or e-cigarettes, alcohol etc. Being in possession of any prohibited items may result in losing your opportunity to participate in this graduation exercise. We are expecting that all members of the senior class will show appropriate behavior during the ceremony. Students who interrupt the graduation exercises may be asked to leave and/or their diplomas may be withheld until a parent conference can be held at a later date. All graduates are expected to stay for the entire ceremony.

Parking for Seniors, Families and Guests

Enter the NRG complex off Kirby through Entrance 9. Traffic control will route you to parking assigned for Westside's graduation. Please note that parking is a cashless payment of \$20 (no cash is accepted). Seniors should arrive at NRG at 10:00 am and enter through the Amegy Bank Gate. Families and guests will also enter at the Amegy Bank Gate any time after 11:00 am.

Parking and Seating for Individuals with Disabilities

Please follow the guidelines above. Parking for individuals with disabilities will be available in LOT 18. Traffic Control at the stadium will route vehicles with permits to this lot. NRG Stadium is ADA Compliant and will meet the access and seating needs of our families and their guests. Please see Parking Map for more information.

Seating for Family Members

Seniors of the graduating class will be directed to the Service Level and seated on the floor. Family members and guests will be directed to open seating. Families who have several members attending the ceremony are encouraged to arrive together. We discourage holding or "reserving" many seats for late arrivals.

Audience Behavior

We ask that family members and other spectators help keep the ceremony in good taste. Horns or other items that might interrupt the graduation are NOT allowed into NRG. All students deserve to have their friends and family members hear their name as read. Students who are performing or delivering a speech deserve to be heard by everyone in the audience.

After the Ceremony Ends

After the closing, guests are invited to meet and to congratulate the new graduates outside the between the Ford and Amegy Bank Gates (beyond the main fencing). We recommend looking at the parking and facility maps and selecting a meeting place outside the stadium. Remember seniors will not have cell phones in their possession.

Parking at NRG Stadium

**CASHLESS
\$20 Parking
Fee**



Entrance 9 – Parking entrance for WHS Graduation

Parking

Enter the NRG complex through Entrance 9. Traffic control will route you to parking assigned for Westside's graduation. Please note that parking is \$20 (credit card payments only). Seniors should arrive at NRG at 10:00 am and enter through the Amegy Bank Gate. Families and guests will also enter at the Amegy Bank Gate any time after 11:00 am.

Parking for individuals with disabilities will be available in LOT 18.

Arrival and Departure Information at NRG Stadium

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE :

Amegy Bank Gate = 

Graduates and guests enter through two different doors at the **Amegy Entrance**.



Longhorn sculpture right outside Amegy Bank Entrance

