

Commencement Speakers



"Maybe, instead of striving for perfection in the rest of our lives, we should be striving for excellence and focusing on how we can better ourselves in the moment."

- Kean Kamerling '21



"I hope you are able to hold hands with someone near, scream at the top of your lungs, and fall over knowing that those beside you are going to be there to pick you up."

- Megan Baumler '21



"The governor said we don't have to wear masks anymore!"

- Sue Deibner



Hats Off

Above: Graduate Elijah Webster dances across the stage towards his diploma May 23.

Right: Elijah Exley-Schuman gives the camera a thumbs up as he walks around the school district during the school-wide graduation parade on May 19.

Below Right: Principal Steve Brand poses with speaker Señora Deibner and the class of 2021.

Below: The class of 2021 waits to receive their diplomas.



IT'S RAINING GRADUATES

Class of 2021 Cruises Through Rainstorm

By Anna Moore

A new tradition started last year is a senior parade after commencement. Seniors lined up their vehicles alphabetically in the parking lot behind the school for a route that went through Stonebrook and west on First Street. Eventually, the sirens were heard and the class of 2021 came parading up the hill. Multiple signs with names scribbled on them along with other decorations were presented as they rolled downtown.

The conditions at the beginning of the parade were excellent, with a high of 75 degrees and sunny. However, that didn't last for long. Midway through, the clouds began to gather and droplets began to fall. No big deal really, the newly found graduates didn't seem to mind. That was until a few sprinkles turned into a torrential downpour. Graduates welcomed the rain, however, and stayed in the line of cars, waving to the crowd.

"I thought that the parade was a great

"If I could survive the craziness of everything that happened during senior year, then I could survive being rained on in the back of a truck."

- Kayla Wallace

idea and that every graduation should have it from now on," Adam Vig said, "I also thought that the rain made the parade that much better because it just sums up the year in a nutshell."

While it wasn't the bright and sunny day that was anticipated, the rain surely made it a fond memory. "At first, I was disappointed about the rain," Kayla Wallace said, "but then I thought that if I could survive the craziness of everything that happened during senior year, then I could survive being rained on in the back of a truck."

The class of 2021 made it clear that the new tradition of a graduation parade is worth it, even if you step out of your car wearing your wet and clammy graduation gown.



Above: 2021 graduate, Jasper Rood enjoys parading in the rain with his family after Commencement. May 23.

Below: Graduates Sydney Parks, Kayla Wallace, and Adam Vig stand together soaking wet after the parade.



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Capturing Smiles

Graduates Anna Nydegger, Elijah Exley-Schuman and Natalie Welch take a selfie with their graduating class of 2021 before the graduation ceremony, May 23.

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Senior Parade

Smile and Wave



1. Mount Vernon Elementary students make a tunnel for the graduates during the walking parade to schools May 19.
2. Sydney Shultz basks in the sun, while waiting for the cars to line up for the parade through town May 23.
3. Sophia Torres-Roe waves at the elementary school students while walking in the parade.
4. Masen Pelley poses in the back parking lot before the senior parade.
5. Kayla Wallace, drenched by the rain, waves to the crowd after the ceremony.
6. Alice Conroy smiles for the camera as she drives by uptown.
7. In the past, the band, orchestra, and choir performed at commencement. This year, only the senior choir members performed, singing one song at the beginning of the ceremony. Pictured are Sophia Andrews, Dani Pitts, Lea Kaminsky, Alice Conroy, Sage McVay, and Kayla Wallace.

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