

Dear 8th Grade Students and Families,

We are pleased to announce that our promotion ceremony for our 8th grade class will be on Wednesday June 5, 2024 on our field here at MLK Middle school.

The ceremony will begin at 2 pm and gates will open at 1pm. June 5th will be an early release day for 6/7th graders and school will be dismissed at 12pm. 8th graders do not need to come to school that day until 1pm for promotion check in. The rationale for the earlier promotion date is to accommodate our families that need to attend the high school graduations on June 6th.

We have roughly 450 promoting students which is similar to a small high school so it is critical that everyone understands some basic expectations to ensure the event is safe and orderly.

Reminder- This is an 8th grade promotion ceremony, it is not graduation. Although this is a milestone in the academic journey of your student that we want to celebrate, this day is really for the students and for them to enjoy being with each other one last time before they head to their high schools.

Non Eligible Participants- To be eligible to attend promotion students must have a 2.0 GPA or higher in their classes by May 24th 2024. Students who have shown a pattern of negative behavior this year and have accumulated more than 5 days of suspension or excessive referrals may be excluded from participating in the ceremony. Those students will be notified no later than May 29th in writing. School administration reserves the right to make the final determination of students who can participate. Remember that promotion is a privilege and not a right.

Parking- Parking will be extremely limited. Preferred parking locations will be the MLK main parking lot, The Church of Jesus Christ and Latter Day Saint parking lot, or the lots at MLK park.

Gates- Event gates will not open until 1 pm as we still have school for our 6th and 7th graders until 12 pm and we have to clear our campus. Patrons who arrive early will be placed in a line queue on the sidewalk outside of the venue. Since we will have school finishing at the same time as the promotion ceremony, the back gate will not be open at any time during the event to ensure our campus remains safe.

Tickets/Seating- This is a non ticketed event but we only have room for 2000 seats on our field. We ask that each family bring up to 4 members to allow enough seats for all parties involved. Seating is on a first come first serve basis and saving seats ahead of time is not allowed to eliminate any potential conflict.

Prohibited Items: Since this is a school event, all normal school rules will apply which prohibits bringing any of the following items:

Animals

Weapons

Drugs or alcohol which includes coolers

Noise makers of any kind (airhorns, cowbells etc)

Balloons or signs will not be allowed into the venue as to not block the view for spectators

No umbrellas or personal shades will be allowed during the ceremony. The weather in June is highly unpredictable. Please plan for warmth and sunshine which means plenty of water, a shade hat and sunscreen prior to the event.

Student Dress Code Reminders: Dress to Impress - remember you are representing your family, school, and community - AND there will be photos

No ripped or torn items

No hats, caps, hoodies, beanies or bandanas.

Shoes must have a back - no flip flops or mules

Students may wear leis but they need to not impact their vision and must be given to the students before they arrive and check into the MPR.

Once students check into the MPR they will not be allowed to leave and only MLK staff will be allowed in.

Highly recommend- no high heels, the stage and grass are not nice to them and we don't want anyone to trip or fall.

8th grade students participating in the ceremony do not go to school on June 5th until 1:00pm. They will report to the MPR by 1pm to check in and receive their seat assignment.

We anticipate the ceremony will take about an hour and 15 minutes total.

We look forward to celebrating this event with you all. Thank you.

Kenneth Wright

Principal

Martin Luther King Jr Middle School