



# WAYLAND HIGH SCHOOL

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Allyson Mizoguchi, Principal  
Ethan Dolleman, Assistant Principal  
Jim Nocito, Assistant Principal

Telephone: 508-358-7746  
Fax: 508-358-8082  
264 Old Connecticut Path  
Wayland, MA 01778

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Dear Parents and Guardians of WHS Juniors:

The Junior Prom this year will take place at the Intercontinental Hotel (510 Atlantic Ave, Boston) in the Rose Kennedy Ballroom on **Saturday, May 18, from 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.** This formal dinner and dance is among the most treasured of our high school traditions. It is our hope to see every junior at this special event.

In this letter, I would like to provide some logistical and cultural information about the Prom, as like many high-tradition events, it has somewhat taken on a life of its own!

Many students and parents wonder if this is a “date-only” event, and I would assure you that this is not the case. Many students attend the Prom as a group of friends or arrive solo. *Any WHS junior in good disciplinary standing is welcome to attend the Prom with or without a date.* If a WHS junior is bringing a guest, the guest does not also have to be a WHS junior. Guests who attend a school other than WHS must fill out paperwork that is available in the main office so that we may check with their schools concerning their behavior and standing.

As you likely know, the Prom is an occasion when our students are expected to adhere to high decorum and maturity. Clad in their formalwear, students enjoy the festivity and glamour of the evening. When they arrive, students are greeted by a line of chaperones consisting of administration and staff; they then mingle until a sit-down dinner, followed by dancing and dessert.

While it has many unique qualities unlike any other school event, we have emphasized to the students that *the Prom is a school event*, and all expectations regarding behavior and decision-making are in full effect. Unfortunately, we have had incidents in the past where students have arrived under the influence of alcohol or drugs or have brought illegal substances with them. We have also discovered evidence of students using alcohol and drugs during the Prom once the event has ended. As a result of these concerns, and to send and enforce a message of sobriety, all Prom guests are breathalyzed by a WHS administrator upon their arrival. This occurs in a private space as part of the reception area, and is conducted swiftly and respectfully. If a student is determined to be under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol, a parent will be called to pick him or her up, and the student will be subject to school discipline as per the Student Handbook. Behaviors not in keeping with school policy will result in corresponding disciplinary action.

In addition, please know that students must be in good disciplinary standing in order to attend the Prom. The administration will notify students and their parents in advance if we have concerns, and it is each student's responsibility to be aware of his or her demerit situation and serve any restricted studies accordingly. Please also know that tickets to the Prom are non-refundable.

For the purposes of safety and inclusivity, all Prom guests will be riding school-sponsored coach buses to the Prom and back to WHS. We have contracted with Local Motion of Boston to provide a fleet of comfortable, safe, and festive vehicles that will take students to and from the Prom in Boston. Local Motion has worked with many high schools and colleges in the area for similar events, and we have great confidence in their ability to meet our needs and enhance the Prom experience for our students. **The Prom ticket price of \$115 includes the cost of transportation.** Working with the Junior Class Executive Board, we believe these coach buses will add a great deal of fun and togetherness to an already special night.

Lastly, I wish to highlight the generous efforts of parent volunteers who plan two wonderful events related to the Prom: "Pre-Prom" and "Late Night." These events are not sponsored by the school, but we do work together to coordinate these safe and celebratory bookends to the Prom. In the past, many students have attended the Pre-Prom event at Wayland High School, a "red (orange) carpet" opportunity for photographs and mingling that is organized by parents. This year, Pre-Prom will begin at 3:30 p.m., and the coach bus fleet will begin heading into Boston at 5:00 p.m. Coach buses will return to WHS from the Intercontinental Hotel in time for students to attend the after-Prom party, Late Night, which is a free, parent-organized and adult-chaperoned event held at the WHS Field House from 11:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. This after-Prom party offers plenty of games, food and fun for students to enjoy, all in a drug and alcohol-free environment. Juniors do not need to attend the Prom to attend Late Night, but all Late Night attendees need to register. Information about Pre-Prom logistics and Late Night registration can be found on eNews and [www.LateNightWHS.com](http://www.LateNightWHS.com).

We will keep you apprised of more details in upcoming WHSPO Newsletters and Friday eNews messages. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me or the class advisor, Mr. Lee Krasnoo ([lee\\_krasnoo@wayland.k12.ma.us](mailto:lee_krasnoo@wayland.k12.ma.us)), if you have any questions at this time.

I look forward to the Prom and truly enjoy sharing in the students' excitement during this special tradition. The success of this evening depends on students, parents and staff emphasizing the Prom as another high point in an already wonderful year. I know that we will all join together to make this a safe, positive and memorable night.

Sincerely,



Allyson Mizoguchi  
Principal