



News Release

For immediate release: June 9, 2009

Contact: David Tucker, Media Relations (206) 252-0203

High School Graduation Commencements Celebrate the Academic Achievements of Seattle Public Schools' Students

Seattle - Seattle Public Schools celebrates the academic achievements of its high school graduates with commencements occurring throughout the city, Tuesday, June 9 through Thursday, June 18. Superintendent Maria L. Goodloe-Johnson, Ph.D., will be speaking at four high school commencements this year: Ingraham High School, Rainier Beach High School, Roosevelt High School and South Lake High School.

Seattle Public Schools is committed to providing an excellent education for every student and dedicated to seeing every student graduate from high school prepared for college, careers and life. The District's five year strategic plan, *Excellence for All*, is focused on raising student achievement by ensuring excellence in every classroom, strengthening leadership throughout the district and building an infrastructure that works well.

"We are proud to celebrate the great accomplishments these new graduates have achieved, and look forward to the leaders that they will become in the future," said Superintendent Goodloe-Johnson. "Helping more students graduate with the skills needed to succeed in higher education and in their careers is the primary goal for Seattle Public Schools. We will continue to set high expectations for all students and to recognize and support the critical role that teachers, staff and families play in helping students succeed."

With a goal of increasing graduation rates and academic achievement, Seattle Public Schools added more than 30% additional Advanced Placement (AP) courses this year; administered the PSAT district-wide to ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students; and is creating a consistent, comprehensive approach to math, science, and reading and writing through curriculum alignment. Seattle Public Schools is also creating accountability at all levels to ensure teachers and students have the support and resources they need to succeed.

The dates for the 2009 SPS High School Commencements:

Tuesday	June 9	5:00 p.m.	Cleveland @ Cleveland High School
		6:30 p.m.	Ingraham @ Ingraham N.W. Athletic Complex
		8:00 p.m.	Ballard @ Memorial Stadium
Wednesday	June 10	5:00 p.m.	Rainier Beach @ Memorial Stadium
		8:00 p.m.	Roosevelt @ Memorial Stadium
Thursday	June 11	5:00 p.m.	West Seattle @ Memorial Stadium
		6:30 p.m.	Nathan Hale @ Hale N.E. Athletic Complex
		8:00 p.m.	Garfield @ Memorial Stadium

Friday	June 12	6:00 p.m.	Franklin @ Memorial Stadium
Saturday	June 13	1:00 p.m.	Chief Sealth @ Memorial Stadium

NON-TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS

Tuesday	June 9	6:00 p.m.	Middle Colleges (<i>U of W</i>): @ U of W Water Activities Center
Thursday	June 11	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Nova @ Nova Interagency @ Exhibition Hall (Seattle Center)
Friday	June 12	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Middle Colleges (<i>Northgate</i>): @ Northgate Community Center Homeschool Resource Ctr. @ Wilson Pacific Auditorium South Lake @ Rainier Beach Performing Arts Center Summit @ Summit
Monday	June 15	7:00 p.m.	The Center School @ Bagley Wright Theater
Wednesday	June 17	7:00 p.m.	Middle Colleges (<i>South Campus</i>): @ Brockey Center @ South Seattle Community College
Thursday	June 18	6:00 p.m.	Middle College (<i>American Indian Heritage Center</i>): @ Daybreak Star Cultural Arts @ Discovery Park

###