



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: The 2019-2020 academic year has been interrupted by the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, resulting in closures of Bellevue-area schools and a dramatic interruption of the educational and social lives of all students, but in particular graduating seniors; and

Whereas: These young people have had to give up many things that make high school memorable: sports, parties, field trips, theatrical performances, concerts, club activities, prom, and the typical graduation ceremonies and year-end activities that only happen once in life; and

Whereas: Bellevue's 1,450 high school seniors have exhibited incredible strength, resiliency and pride, working hard to graduate despite the challenges of completing the school year in virtual classrooms; and

Whereas: Educators have worked closely and passionately with our students and families to continue providing valuable and meaningful educational experiences through the challenges of the pandemic, including virtual graduation ceremonies for all of Bellevue's high schools; and

Whereas: Continued closures of many businesses and services in our area will likely impact the summer employment opportunities for many of these seniors during a critical time of transition to the next phase of their lives; and

Whereas: Families, friends, neighbors, and educators should recognize and encourage the abilities of all young people in our community by providing support as able including further education, housing, employment and recreational activities; and

Whereas: The Class of 2020 will be our future leaders, pioneers, creators, motivators, and role models who will continue to influence our community long after this crisis has ended.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim on June 1, 2020, our appreciation and support of Bellevue's:

2020 GRADUATING SENIORS

and encourage all residents to recognize, encourage and support the success of these young members of our community as they embark on their journey to adulthood during unprecedented times and continue to carry on and find ways to thrive during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue