

## What Should I Know About Prom?

**Background:** Prom is the culminating event for seniors and occurs on a Friday night near the end of the school year. It's planned by SGA Senior Class Officers.

**Who, When and How:** Prom is from 9:00p.m.-1:00 a.m. It is held at a local hotel and chaperoned by Whitman staff. Prom is more date-oriented than Homecoming. Seniors are invited to attend; they are welcome to bring someone with them from a lower grade or a different school. Tickets are sold in school the week before Prom. All financial obligations must be cleared before a student is allowed to purchase a ticket.

**Attire:** Girls wear cocktail or formal dresses; boys wear tuxedos. Flowers and boutonnieres are often worn.

**Logistics:** The prom couples or groups usually start their night by gathering at someone's house to have their pictures taken. Then they usually go to dinner in a restaurant. Many students, though certainly not all, take limousines or party buses to Prom. If they've hired transportation, the car will usually take them to the restaurant, to Prom, onto the house after Prom and if they're attending Post-Prom, back to Whitman for that event.

Planning ahead will ensure obtaining transportation or a restaurant reservation during this busy season. It might be helpful to have discussions about projected costs when considering different restaurants and transportation option, as well as about who will be paying for the different parts of Prom since every couple may work it out differently (ticket, transportation, dinner).

*Please see other side for information on Post-Prom*

## What Should I Know about Post-Prom?

**What is it:** Prom season is a high-risk time for underage drinking which can lead to drunk driving and violence. Post-Prom is a safe, alcohol-free event for the students. It is an event filled with tons of activities, entertainment and food for Whitman students and it's free!

**Who, Where, & What to Wear:** Post-Prom is held at the Whitman from 1:00-5:00 a.m. Seniors alone or with their guests may attend. A student can attend Post-Prom without attending Prom. Attire is very casual.

**How to get there:** Earlier in the day, students (or someone in their group) often plan to leave a car at Whitman so that they have transportation home after Post-Prom. Kids usually go to a designated house after Prom to change into casual clothing before heading back Post-Prom.

**The Rules:** The kids do not have to stay at Post-Prom until the end. There is an incentive to stay simply to have fun with their friends and also to win prizes. This is designed so as to keep them in a safe and entertaining environment after Prom that does not involve alcohol or hotel rooms. Once a student leaves this event, he or she may not return, unless escorted by a parent volunteer.

**How it Happens:** Post-Prom is a parent-organized and run event. A large number of volunteers are needed to make it happen and the planning occurs from August until May.

Some parents feel that their child might not like to have them chaperone at Post Prom with them. Those parents are welcome to chaperone before their child is a Senior; this is a wonderful way to experience Whitman students and will give you an idea of what your child will be experiencing as a Senior! Additionally, there are many other important jobs that happen before and around the event itself.