Where Seniors are Going Next

By: Blake Abrahamsen

With National Decision Day passed, the seniors of Skyline have made their choice on what they will be doing after receiving their diplomas. While the majority are attending four-year universities, there is more to the story. The data found in this article is courtesy of a spreadsheet created by seniors Ben Zhang and Zak Cole.

There are 510 seniors listed in the spreadsheet. With 353 responses, there are 69% of Skyline seniors accounted for. *The Forum* will be looking further than just the universities students are going and also take into account gap years, military service and more.

Every year, a handful of Skyline students opt into military service following their years at Skyline. This year, Steven Ko is the only to enlist directly, while Hayden Miller and Blake Harrison will enlist after attending the University of Southern California through the ROTC program.

A drawing of a cartoon character

Description automatically generatedThe senior class will also be spreading outside the state of Washington. While there are many schools with only one or two Skyline students set to attend, a handful of schools tend to draw many students, and this year is no different. Purdue University has 10 committed to attend, Arizona State has six and Illinois also has six students set to attend.

A picture containing drawing

Description automatically generatedAs with every year, a large handful of students opt to stay close to home with schools such as University of Washington and Washington State University. The University of Washington has a whopping 99 students set to attend, which makes up 28% of those who responded to the spreadsheet. Washington State University has 32 students who responded and set to attend, or 9%. Western Washington University and Gonzaga University have 15 and 16 students set to attend each, or approximately 4% of respondents. The last schools in Washington to draw large numbers of Skyline students are Seattle University and Central Washington University, which have six and five students set to attend.

UW logo

*Photo courtesy of UW Athletics*

Another way to look at where seniors will be going is which state or country they will be living in. Washington alone will have 189 of the 353 respondents. Other states receiving many Skyline alumni are California with 43, Arizona with 14 and Indiana with 13. While the vast majority will remain in the United States, a handful will also be leaving the country. There will be Skyline alumni in the Netherlands, Australia, Great Britain and Canada.

WSU logo

*Courtesy of WSU*

Everyone has their own individual paths. While many Skyline students opt to attend four year universities, there are other options available. For example, a few students will be taking a gap year. There are also a few baseball players who are attending community colleges with the intentions of transferring to a larger program for baseball.

The Skyline class of 2020 will be remembered for its strange ending given the global pandemic that has occurred. While it may not be the ending many hoped for, its just the beginning of the next chapter, whether it be athletics, academics or straight to work. Best of luck to the class of 2020 as they move on from the walls of Skyline.