



Westsyde Secondary School Grad 2022 Newsletter

January 12-25	Grad Photo Signup
January 14	Grad Heights Deadline for Grad Gowns (submit to the office)
January 26 – 29	Grad Photos
May 6	Fees Deadline (all outstanding fees)
TBD	Commencement Date

Commencement Information

At this time, we are awaiting direction from Public Health officials regarding how Graduation Ceremonies may proceed this year. We understand that it is frustrating to have a lack of concrete information to be able to share with you regarding your Graduation. Although we are currently experiencing planning limitations with the health orders/measures that are in place across B.C., please know that your Graduation is important to us, too. We look forward to celebrating your amazing educational journey with you as a student of the Westsyde Secondary Grad Class of 2022. We will share commencement ceremony details with you as quickly as they are available to us.

Graduation Requirements

In order to be eligible to participate in the Commencement Ceremony, a student must complete graduation requirements by the end of their grade 12 year. At the end of Term 3, there will be an adjudication of any students in grade 12 with failing grades. Administration, in consultation with counsellors and teachers, will conduct this process. Failing students will be warned formally as part of this process. Students will have until the last week of April to improve any failing marks. Students who are still failing at the end of April will not be permitted to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. All decisions regarding a student being removed from the list will include parent consultation.

Requirements to participate in the Commencement Ceremony

- The Graduate must be completing all graduation requirements.
- All outstanding fees must be paid, including Ceremony fee.
- All Library fees must be paid and library books must be returned.

Grad Fees

Based on changing circumstances, our school grad fees for 2022 are undetermined at this time. Typically, grad fees cover the following items:

- Commencement costs including your keeper graduation gown, memento grad cap and tassel, graduation certificate, composite photo, and commencement ceremony photo.
- All other commencement costs including decorations, flowers, tickets, programs, photographer, videographer, and video.
- Special gift for our grads.
- Grad fees are due into the office by May 6, 2022. Once determined, Grad fees must be paid in full to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

Keeper Grad Gowns

Keeper Cap and Gown Care

- Iron & hang gown prior to photos
 - Please keep items safely stored for June Ceremony
 - There will be no extra caps, gowns or stoles.
- Students will also receive their grad cap and V-stoles. *WSS will hang on to the tassels until the commencement ceremony.* The photographer will have access to tassels for use in the Grad Photos.

Grad Photo Information

Grad photos will be taken on Wednesday, January 26th to Saturday, January 29th in Room 22 at the following times:

Evening Sessions: Wed, January 26th 3:30 – 9:00
Thurs, Jan 27th 3:30 – 9:00
Fri, Jan 28th 3:30 – 9:00

Day Sessions: Saturday, January 29th 8:30 – 4:00

Graduates will be able to sign up for Grad Photo appointments online. We will be using the same program (PTCFast) that we have used in the past for Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews. Grads can sign up directly using the following link: https://ptcfast.com/schools/WSS_GRAD. This link will also be available on our school website. Please ensure that only one appointment time is booked per graduate.

Grad photos are available for purchase. They are also used for class composite purposes so **all Grads should have their photo taken, even if you do not plan on purchasing a photo package.** The sitting fee is \$35 and is to be paid directly to photographer on the day of your pictures.

Important message from Right Photography:

- The sitting fee is \$35. Grads will receive 8x10 diploma folder, 8x10 mini composite, and a 5x7 photo from the convocation ceremony.
- Grads will need to come in 10 minutes prior to their appointment, they will be putting on and taking off their own gowns and sashes to minimize all contact when having their photos done.
- Please wear dress clothes under your gown (i.e. blouse, shirt and tie). No t-shirts please.
- NO pets – sorry, with COVID-19 precautions it's very difficult.
- Small props that can be held – we need to stay touchless with everything
- We are taking 8 poses this year

Website link: www.rightphotography.com



Scholarship Information

If you do not already have a copy of the Scholarship Guidelines and Information, you can contact Mrs. Lapeyre in the counselling office. In addition, be sure to check out the School District #73 Booklet page found at:

<https://www.sd73.bc.ca/en/community-parents-and-students/scholarships--bursaries.aspx?mid=16171>

Baby Photos

We will be putting together a slideshow to use during our Commencement Ceremony, which includes baby photos of our Grads. Please submit your photo (infant to pre-school age) to the main office by March 18th. This can be done by emailing a digital or scanned photo (minimum size 55px by 500 px, JPEG or PNG file type with the file name: lastname_firstname.jpg) to tparenteau@sd73.bc.ca. If you are unable to scan the image, we can do it for you. Please bring the photo to the main office where we will scan it for you while you wait.

Safe Grad/Grand March & Prom

The Safe Grad/Grand March & Prom events are organized by the Parent Safe Grad Committee.

