



Westsyde Secondary School

Grad 2023 Newsletter #1 – October

October 17	Grad Photo Sign-up starts
November 21-24	Grad Photos
January 12	Baby Photo Deadline
April 5	Fees Deadline (all outstanding fees) *To be determined*
June 8	Commencement Ceremony at 1:00 pm

Grad Photos

Grad photos dates are: Tues, Nov 21st, Wed, Nov 22nd, Thurs, Nov 23rd and Fri, Nov 24th from 3:30 – 6:00 and 6:30 – 9:00 in Room 2 at WSS.

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/Grad_Photos

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 \$40 and is to be paid directly to the photographer on the day of your pictures.

Important message from Right Photography:

- The sitting fee is \$40. Grads will receive an 8x10 diploma folder, 8x10 mini composite, and a 5x7 photo from the convocation ceremony.
- Please wear dress clothes under your gown (i.e. blouse, shirt and tie). No t-shirts please.
- Small props can be held
- We are taking 12 poses this year

Website link: <https://www.rightphotography.com/>

Keeper Grad Gowns

Graduates will have their measurements done for their grad gowns with the photographer from November 21st to November 24th. Graduates will keep these gowns.

Scholarship Information

If you do not already have a copy of the Scholarship Guidelines and Information, you can contact Mrs. Lapeyre in the counseling office. **The Google Classroom code** with more information is: **u35unem**

In addition, be sure to check out the School District #73 Bursaries page found at:

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

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 counselors 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

Grad fees are to be determined until some items are finalized. The fees cover:

- All commencement costs including your graduation certificate, composite photo and ceremony photo
- Additional commencement costs including decorations, flowers, staging costs, programs and Staff/Grad Social
- Grad fees are due in the office by Friday, April 5th. Grad fees must be paid in full to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

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 January 12. 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. *The next parent and student grad meeting is on Thursday, October 19th at 6:00pm in the library.*

Contact:

Kimberly Lomond, Co-chair
kimberlylomond@gmail.com