

# Final Newsletter Graduation 2021



Instructions for all Graduates

After you have read this newsletter,  
please read it again!



**GRAD INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS**  
WHAT DO WE DO? WHERE DO WE START? HELP?



FIRST OFF, YOU SHOULD HAVE ALREADY:

***SIGNED UP FOR YOUR COMMENCEMENT APPOINTMENT,  
PICKED UP YOUR CAP & GOWN, AND SUBMITTED A BABY  
PICTURE TO THE OFFICE.***

***ALL SCHOOL AND GRAD FEES ARE DUE IN TO THE OFFICE  
NO LATER THAN MAY 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021***

**Dates/times for Commencement Ceremonies:**

Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> —Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (9:00 am-4:00 pm)

Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021—(9:00 am-2:30 pm)

**Location:**

Our Commencement Ceremonies will occur in the gymnasium of Westsyde Secondary School, located at 855 Bebek Road in Kamloops, BC.

- 🎓 Please arrive ten minutes before your appointment at the designated exterior entrance. Please see map below.
- 🎓 Only one family waiting at the entrance at a time will be permitted.
- 🎓 Parking is available in the school parking lot.

**Attire:**

All graduates must arrive wearing their cap, V-stole, and gown to cross the stage. Graduates will be keeping their grad regalia this year. The material of the gowns is lighter than in years past to better accommodate the hotter weather. Appropriate dress under the graduation gowns is generally smart, casual attire, but graduates may also choose to wear their graduation dresses or suits under their gowns if desired.

**Ceremony Pre-Notes:**

The Commencement Ceremony will occur during your scheduled appointment as per the dates and times listed above. Each graduate and their family will have the opportunity to celebrate this amazing milestone in ten-minute intervals.

As a reminder, please note the following:

- 🎓 **Immediate family living in the same household (up to a maximum of 6 guests)** are welcome to attend and watch your graduate cross the stage and receive their Commencement Certificate and scholarship awards if applicable.
- 🎓 You are welcome to take pictures at any time during commencement from your assigned viewing area.

## **Ceremony Procedure:**

Graduates and their families will arrive to the marked, designated entrance on the map ten minutes before their appointment. Here, graduates and their families will complete a mandatory health screening survey and sanitize their hands before entering the gymnasium. Everyone entering the gymnasium must wear a non-medical mask for the duration of their time inside the gymnasium and Westsyde Secondary.

🎓 *Please note that the Health and Safety guidelines set by the Public Health Officer need to be strictly adhered to with zero exceptions. If you or a family member is feeling unwell or is experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e.: fever; chills; new or worsening cough; sneezing; shortness of breath; sore throat and painful swallowing; stuffy or runny nose; loss of sense of smell; headache; muscle aches; fatigue; and/or loss of appetite), **you will NOT be permitted to enter nor attend the Commencement Ceremony in the gymnasium of Westsyde Secondary School.***

Upon entering gymnasium, **graduates will have their tassel hanging on the RIGHT side of their cap.** Graduates will remain on the wing of the stage and family members will walk to the assigned viewing area in the front row.

Once the Reader calls your name, you will gracefully cross the stage and stop at the podium at the center of the stage. You will collect everything on the top of the table: Commencement Certificate and Class Composite Photo. There will also be a blue cord, a gold cord, and scholarship awards if applicable. **Once collected, please pause a moment at the podium, look into the audience, and smile so your family can get some great photos!** As you begin crossing the stage again, you will see an “X” on the floor. **Please stop on this “X”, face the audience, smile, and *flip your tassel from the right side of your cap to your left.***

Once you reach the end of the stage, **please stop at the lighted trees (another “X” on the floor) and stop so your families can take more photos.**



Once you have walked off the stage, your family will join you and you will see a few photo backdrops in which you and your family can take some fun photos. Once you have taken your photos, you will proceed to the exit.

As we understand that our Commencement ceremony looks very different this year, we wanted to do something extra special for our graduates. A special gift will be given to grads as they exit the building.

## **After the Commencement Ceremony:**

Once your Commencement appointment has ended, we respectfully request that graduates and their families please leave the gymnasium and school grounds of Westsyde Secondary immediately following. It is important for us to be able to accommodate ample parking and ensure that social and physical distancing measures are in place for the next graduate and families who will be arriving.

*We look forward to seeing you and celebrating this amazing milestone with you!*

*Also, an extra special Congratulations goes out to the Valedictorian for WSS Commencement 2021, Mackenzie Bellows!*

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call at the school at 250-579-9271.*

**Be safe and have fun!**

# Westside Class of 2021 Commencement Ceremony

