



April 26, 2021

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians;

We are now nearing the home stretch, with only two semesters remaining in the 2020-2021 school year. We want to give you information about the Commencement ceremonies in June, please understand that the current plan is based on the current PHO orders and is subject to VIHA approvals and may change at any time.

We are still hopeful that Commencement on June 12 and 13 will continue to be possible, so that we can celebrate our Graduating students both in person and virtually via the livestream. There are a few points to know at this current time:

1. We are planning for small ceremonies of 25-30 students in the Belmont Theatre. Commencement groupings will be based on the Learning Cohorts in Semester 8.
  - Due to the current PHO orders and VIHA recommendations, we will not be able to schedule groupings with friends or take requests.
  - We are aware that some Grads are not scheduled for class in Sem 8 and other Grads are in grade 9-11 classes, and we are working with district Health and Safety and VIHA to determine groupings.
2. The ceremony will include a grad folder/certificate and a professional (Lifetouch) cap-and-gown photograph of each grad on stage.
  - Due to VIHA and PHO protocols, we won't be able to support outside photography. If you would like additional photographs in cap-and-gown, we recommend getting your own photographer for pictures off school grounds.
3. Parents and other family members will be able to watch the ceremonies live-streamed.
  - [As previously communicated](#), we will determine on our May 1 deadline whether or not in-person guests will be allowed.
4. There will be a professional (Roll Focus) video prepared for the Grads and their families, containing: O Canada, 2021 Grad song, and Pomp and Circumstance performances, speeches from Superintendent, Principal, Valedictorian, and others; Grad photo slideshow with Commencement comments; and Student photo slideshow. The video will be available through an electronic link.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

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