

Grad 2024



Grad Information Package

People To Know:

Administration

Mr. Jonathan Harris, Principal

jharris@sd35.bc.ca

Mrs. Jennifer Koehler, Vice Principal (A-L)

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Mr. Kurt Reynaud, Vice Principal (M-Z)

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Counselling

Ms. Michele Dennison (A-L)

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Ms. Amber Blount (M-Z)

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Career Advisor

Ms. Marsha Chesshire

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Grad Council & Events

Mr. S. Penner

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Ms. J. Weslowski

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Ms. Sommer Smith

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Ms. A. Blount

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Grad Clothing

Ms. T. Bowick

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Grad Capstone

Ms. J. Dumais

jdumais@sd35.bc.ca

Important Dates:

Grad 2024

Grad Cruise (Penner)	October 19
Fall in to Grade 8 BBQ (Grad Council)	October 11
Canadian Universities Event (Counselling)	October 5
Brittany Palmer 'Unlock Your Future'	TBA
BC Post-Secondary Info Night	September 18
Grad Portraits (Koehler)	Dec. 14-16
Homecoming Tickets on sale (Grad Council)	Late Nov
Homecoming Dance (Grad Council)	December 7
Capstone Presentations (Sem 1 CLC classes)	Jan 26
Yearbook Baby Photo & Yearbook Write-up due (Sandquist)	March 8
Grad Gown Size Submitted (Counselling)	April 1
Grad Spring Event (Grad Council)	April 18
Mandatory Grad Assembly	April 18 (Tutorial)
Grad Ceremony Write-up due (Blount)	May 17
Ceremony & Prom Tickets on sale (Blount)	May 13-24
Scholarship Tea (Counselling)	June 5
Mandatory Grad Assembly	June 6 (Tutorial)
Grad Gown Pick up in Career Centre (Counselling)	June 17-18
Capstone Presentations (Sem 2 CLC classes)	June 21
Graduation Dinner Dance (Blount)	June 25
Graduation Convocation (Smith)	June 19

Expectations to Graduate

DW Poppy takes graduation seriously. In order to participate in the Graduation Ceremony at DW Poppy Secondary, students must have taken enough credits, and be in a position to pass their remaining courses.

Student attendance and behaviour throughout the year is also taken into consideration when we review the names of students who will be participating in the Graduation ceremony.

Should students not be in a position to graduate, grade 12 students *may* still be allowed to participate in the school's Graduation Prom event *with permission* from administration.

Graduation Capstone Project

A Capstone is a culminating project, presentation, or performance that allows students the opportunity to consolidate and showcase their learning from their school and life experiences into a meaningful and relevant product. Students will use innovation, cross curricular knowledge, and critical thinking skills in an area of interest as the basis for the project, which is applicable to a real-world concept.

The Capstone will:

- Help students make connections between what they are learning now and what they hope to see in their future.
- Provide students with focused, structured, authentic, and experiential learning; responsibility for meeting timelines, making decisions, conducting research, preparing and making presentations – all transferable skills needed for success in the workplace.
- Identify a new opportunity, either for an existing entity or for the creation of a new venture; and implement the necessary skills they have built to launch their own entrepreneurial proposal, research project, service pursuit, event or product.
- Ensure students meet the BC Ministry graduation competencies (Communication, Creative and Critical Thinking, Personal and Cultural Identity, Personal Awareness and Social Responsibility) through the development of the following skills:
 - Effective communication (oral and written)
 - Public Speaking
 - Research Skills
 - Media Literacy
 - Teamwork
 - Planning and Organization
 - Self-awareness and Advocacy
 - Goal Setting
 - Time Management
 - Networking and mentorship relationships
 - Problem Based Learning and Inquiry
 - Presentation skills

Students in Career Life Connections (CLC) in Semester 1 will present on January 26th, 2024. Students with CLC in Semester 2 will present on June 21st, 2024.

StudentCash

All ticket sales for grad events will be done online through StudentCash. Students are encouraged to ensure they have their account set up. Please see Ms. Bezanson in the front office if you have questions regarding your account.

Grad Fee

All Grade 12 students are required to pay a \$100.00 grad fee. This fee helps to cover costs associated with the Commencement ceremony and other grad-related events. This fee can be paid online through StudentCash: <https://sd35.schoolcashionline.com/>

Poppy Grad Wear

2024 Poppy Grad wear will be available to students in the coming weeks. Once the designs are finalized, a link for the online store will be sent out to students via Instagram and Teams so make sure you are following us @dwpoppysecondary and that your Teams notifications are turned on.

Stay Informed

We will be using Microsoft Teams to send up to date information to Grads. All Grads have been added to a Team titled, Poppy Grads 2024. Grads are encouraged to check this team regularly for important updates and information. We will also be sending information about graduation requirements, scholarships and grad events via email so please ensure that the front office has an up-to-date email address on file for your family.

Grad Council

Any student who is in grade 12 is welcome to attend our Grad Council meetings Wednesdays at lunch in Room 245. Grad activities such as Homecoming, spirit days, Grad Laser Tag, etc. are all organized through Grad Council and we're always in need of creative ideas and more hands to help run our events.

Grad Photos

Grad photos are scheduled for Dec 14-16 and will take place from 3:00pm-9:00pm. In November, students will be sent a link to sign up for a timeslot. More information about how to purchase photos will also be sent at this time. All graduating students need to have a grad photo taken so they can be included in the yearbook and the composite picture. There is a \$60 sitting fee which is deducted from the cost of photos purchased.

Scholarship Tea (Langley Golf Centre)

This year's scholarship winners will be participating in an afternoon of celebration on **June 5, 2024** with members of the community who will be presenting this year's district scholarships. The celebration will give students and presenters the opportunity to meet and celebrate their successes. Specific information will be given out in May. All scholarship winners *must* attend. These scholarship winners may also be publicly acknowledged during our Graduation Ceremony.

A Message From The Dry Grad Committee...

Dry Grad is a parent-organized event that typically runs on the same night of, and takes place after, the Grad Dinner-Dance on June 25. It is a party for our students to have fun, play games, eat food, drink mock-tails and generally just hang out until the wee hours of the morning. In the past, meetings have been in the evening at 7pm. A lot of parents like the convenience of Zoom, while some prefer in person meetings so there will be a poll to see which people prefer. We are still looking for a committee chairperson for this year. Once this has been determined more information about meetings will be provided. Please email pamala@combsfamily.ca if you would like to take on the role of committee chair.

Please follow our Facebook Page, it's the fastest, easiest way for us to get timely information out. We do send out information via email as well, through the school and through Gmail. If you do not have a Facebook account, please let us know via dwpoppydrygrad@gmail.com and you can be added to the email mailing list.

Please email dwpoppydrygrad@gmail.com with any questions and share this information with other grad parents so everyone is in the loop. There is a lot of work to do and only 10 months to get it done. We have lots of fun along the way and throw the kids a spectacular party.

GRADUATION DINNER & DANCE

Graduation Prom & Reception

Tuesday, June 25nd, 2024

Newlands Golf & Country Club, Langley BC

- Grad Dinner-Dance tickets will be sold online only and will be available for pick up May 13-24 @ lunch only in the Counselling Center. Students must bring their receipt with them to pick up their tickets.
- The ticket price includes a buffet dinner, dessert, unlimited pop, DJ, facility rental and decorations, security & gratuities. More information about how to purchase tickets online will be released in the spring.
- Students may purchase as many tickets as they wish. Family members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Students will reserve their tables when they pick up their tickets; students who do not pick up their tickets will be assigned to a random table so buy and pick up your tickets early!
- **Approved guest passes are required in order to purchase tickets for any non-Poppy Grad individuals attending as a 'date' or 'guest' with the grad.** Guest passes will be available in the office and must be approved by administration in order to purchase a ticket. More information about guest passes will be discussed at the grad assembly in April
- The event runs from 5:30pm-12:00pm. Students are responsible for arranging their own ride to and from Grad Dinner-Dance.
- Grad Dinner-Dance is a school-event and so all school rules apply. Students arriving under the influence or possession of drugs or alcohol will not be permitted entry into prom. All Grad 2023 events are **non-smoking** and **non-vaping** events.
- A reminder that Grad Dinner-Dance is a **formal event** and attire should reflect this.
- There are no in and out privileges at the event.
- At the end of the evening, transportation to Dry Grad (for those students attending) will be arranged by the Dry Grad Parent Committee. Students not attending Dry Grad must make their own arrangements for pickup at the venue.

More detailed information about how to purchase tickets will be released in the spring at a Grade 12 assembly. If you have questions before then, please contact Ms. Blount at ablount@sd35.bc.ca

**Please note: Due to a change in our contract with Newlands, we will only be offering full dinner tickets for family members this year.*

GRADUATION CONVOCATION

Graduation Convocation

Wednesday, June 19th, 2024

Chandos Pattison Auditorium at Pacific Academy, 10238 168th Street, Surrey

- Ceremony tickets will be sold online only and will be available for pick up alongside the Grad Dinner-Dance tickets from May 13-24 @ lunch in the Counselling Center. Students must bring their receipt with them to pick up their tickets.
- Ceremony tickets are \$5 each. Each grad may purchase up to 8 tickets. Grads **do not** need to purchase a ticket for themselves.
- People who require extra tickets (beyond the 8 allocated to each student) for the ceremony may purchase remaining tickets online starting June 1st.
- The ceremony takes approximately 2-2.5 hours and is therefore not appropriate for babies and small children.
- Grads will be able to pick up caps and gowns June 17-18 in the Counselling Centre. The gown, hat, tassel and red, white and blue stoll (which goes around your neck) are yours to keep and do not need to be returned.
- Seating is by general admission so guests are encouraged to arrive early. Doors will open at 6pm.
- Grads must arrive at the back of the auditorium by 5:45pm. If you would like to take photos in your gown, please arrive earlier.
- Marshalling (line up for the processional) starts at 5:45pm. Guests must be seated by 6:45 and the processional will begin at 6:55 SHARP. **PLEASE BE ON TIME.**
- Please remain for the entire ceremony to celebrate all members of the class of 2024. It is distracting if people leave after their graduate has crossed the stage.
- Our graduation ceremony is a semi-formal, non-smoking and non-vaping event. All school rules are in effect.
- **IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE PARTICIPATING IN THE CEREMONY, PLEASE LET THEIR COUNSELLOR KNOW!**
- **IF YOUR HOMESTAY STUDENT WILL NOT BE PARTICIPATING IN THE CEREMONY, PLEASE LET MS. SHORE KNOW!**

Please contact Ms. Smith at 604-530-2151 for further information

Yearbook Write-Up & Baby Photos

The time has come for you to sum up your high school life and write your blurb for the yearbook. You've been reading other grad blurbs for years...now you get to write your own!

Blurb Rules:

- **75 words**
- **Size 12 -- Times New Roman Font**
- **Paragraph form and complete sentences**
- **No code words**
- **No references to drugs, alcohol or sex**
- **Make it as positive as possible**

Note: Teachers will be editing your write up before it is included in the yearbook

What you might want to include:

- Thank you to important people (family, friends, teachers)
- Significant events (sports trips, music retreats, memorable moments)
- Best memory
- Funniest memory
- Famous quotes
- Future plans

All grads' **baby photos** will have a very prominent place in the yearbook.

Our goal is to have 100% of grads submit their baby photos.

Your baby photo must be scanned, saved as a

JPEG and sent to: dwpyearbook@gmail.com by March 8th, 2024. Hard copies of your photo will not be accepted

Yearbook write ups will be completed in your English 12 class and collected by your teacher. Absolute last day to submit these is Friday March 8th, 2024.