



February 2026

Dear Grade 12 Students and Families,

## Re: Grade 12 Events and Important Reminders

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform students and parents/guardians of the important information for the remainder of the school year. Please read this notice carefully and contact the school office at 604-713-8288 if you have any questions.

| 2025                                       |   |
|--|---|
| <b>October 12-16</b><br>Sunday to Thursday | Graduation Photos and Gown Measurements at Artona Studios   |
| 2026                                       |   |
| <b>March 2</b><br>Monday                   | Grade 12 Assembly – <b>at FIT</b> in the Auditorium   |
| <b>April 8</b><br>Wednesday                | Graduation Citation Survey Form Open ( <b>April 8 to 24</b> ). Survey includes Grad Ceremony Confirmation.<br>** the link to survey will be posted on the Grade 12 Teams Channel  |
| <b>April 10</b><br>Friday                  | Gladstone and District Scholarship applications due.  |
| <b>April 17</b><br>Friday                  | Valedictorian Applications Open   |
| <b>April 29</b><br>Wednesday               | Valedictorian Applications due to the Office at <b>10:00 am</b>   |
| <b>May 6</b><br>Wednesday                  | Valedictorian Announced   |
| <b>May 1 to 22</b>                         | Grad Ceremony (additional) tickets available for online purchase from Chan Centre<br><b>Note:</b> that the 2 complimentary tickets and any additional purchased tickets will be issued by the Chan Centre. Instructions to receive tickets will be communicated before May 1. |
| <b>June 2</b><br>Tuesday                   | <b>Grad Assembly and Grad Rehearsal at 8:40 am</b> (for periods 1 and FIT) in the Auditorium<br>Grad gown package distribution following the Grad Rehearsal   |
| <b>June 2</b><br>Tuesday                   | Graduates must arrive at the Chan Centre at <b>5:00 pm</b><br>Graduation Ceremony at Chan Centre at <b>6:00 pm - (Doors open at 5:30)</b>   |
| <b>June 17</b><br>Wednesday                | Graduation Dinner and Dance at the Fraserview at <b>6:00 pm</b>   |
| <b>June 22</b><br>Monday                   | Grade 12 Yearbook pick up <b>during lunch break</b>   |
| <b>August 17-20</b>                        | Summer Mailout (Graduation Diploma) mailed to student's home address  |
|  |   |

### GRADUATION CEREMONY and TICKETS

The Graduation Ceremony will be held at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC at **6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 2**. The Graduates must arrive by 5:00 pm. The doors will open for guests (to be seated) at 5:30 pm and the Ceremony will start promptly at 6:00 pm.

Each Graduate will receive two tickets to the Graduation Ceremony for their guests. These two tickets are included in the Graduation Fee which is \$120 and is due as soon as possible. Additional tickets (initially 2, then possibly more) are \$12 each and will be available for purchase online from the Chan Centre from **May 1 to 22**. Tickets will be issued electronically by the Chan Centre and parents/guardians must obtain their 2 complimentary and additional tickets online from the Chan Centre website. Graduates will not require a ticket if they are wearing their Gown upon arrival.

Pay parking will be available at the Rose Garden Parkade.

### VALEDICTORIAN

The valedictorian for the Gladstone Secondary class of 2026 should be the student who best represents the graduating class. The valedictorian writes and gives a speech, at the end of the graduation ceremony, that captures the spirit of the class, acknowledges the achievements and contributions of the students, staff and parents. The speech should be serious, inspirational, entertaining and look ahead to life beyond high school. Applications for Valedictorian are due to the Office on **Wednesday, April 29**.



# GLADSTONE SECONDARY SCHOOL

## GRADUATION CEREMONY MESSAGE (CITATION)

Each Graduate is responsible for drafting a SHORT message that will be read as they cross the stage. Some examples of what you may want to include are:

- What you will fondly remember
- Your future plans
- Regards to people you may wish to thank
- A reflective statement

Remember that this will be read out loud by a teacher/administrator as you cross the graduation stage so it must be written in the third person (e.g. *“Emily is excited to be taking a year in the fall and traveling around the world. She will miss her friends and family in Vancouver”*). Your message must be appropriate for a formal occasion, be under 25 words and be submitted electronically. Please watch for the Survey/Form link on the Grade 12 Teams on **Wednesday, April 8** to enter your Graduation Citation Message. The Citation is due on **Friday, April 24**.

## GRADUATION PHOTOS

Graduation Photos Session Dates were in October 2025 and Grade 12 students should have booked their 30 minute appointment at Artona Studios (353 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver). If they missed the October photo session dates, there is still time to book an appointment at <https://artona.com>. Select the Chat feature and make an appointment as soon as possible.

If you have any questions in regard to the graduation photos, please contact Artona directly - click on “contact us” on their website <https://artona.com/> or call 604-872-7272.

## GRADUATION GOWN ORDER AND DISTRIBUTION

All students participating in the Gladstone Graduation Ceremony must wear a gown, grad cap/tassel and a sash. Gowns are ordered by height measurement, and the purchase of these grad items are included in the Graduation Fees. Grad Gown measurements are done when graduates have their grad photo taken at the Artona studios.

The grad gowns will be distributed after the Grade 12 Assembly/Grad Rehearsal on **Tuesday, June 2** and students will be keeping their gown, sash and caps as keepsakes of their graduation ceremony.

## GRADUATION ASSEMBLY and SECOND REHEARSALS

The Grade 12 Assembly and Rehearsal will be on **Tuesday, June 2 at 8:40 am** in the Auditorium.

Students **MUST attend** the rehearsal and arrive on time **at 8:40 am** if they wish to cross the stage. All grads will be excused from their first period as **attendance is mandatory!**

## GRADUATION DINNER / DANCE

The Dinner/Dance will be held at the Fraserview Banquet Hall on **Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**. More event details to follow. The Dinner / Dance fee is \$75 and will be payable on School Cash on-line prior to the event.

## GRADUATION DIPLOMA SUMMER MAILOUT

The Ministry of Education Dogwood Diploma will be mailed home at the end of August, if the graduation requirements are met. If you have recently moved or will be moving at the end of the school year, please remember to inform the office. This will ensure that you receive this document from Gladstone Secondary School.