



VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Important Information – Please Translate
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 معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

February 26, 2026

To: The Caregivers of our Grade 12 students, the Grads of 2026!

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform students and parents/caregivers of important information regarding Graduation events, including the graduation School Leaving Ceremony and Dinner/Dance in June. Please read this notice carefully and contact the school office at 604-713-8215 if you have any questions.

Grad 2026 is rapidly approaching! It is incredible how quickly the years have passed. Every year, the staff of Vancouver Technical sponsors a graduation ceremony and a dinner dance to celebrate the culmination of our students' high school studies. This letter aims to congratulate you as parents and caregivers and provide you with dates, details, and an early estimate of any costs involved with graduation celebrations.

IMPORTANT EVENTS & DEADLINES:

March 5	Grade 12 Assembly and Valedictorian applications are available
March 5	Scholarship Worksheets available on TEAMS
March 30	Scholarship Applications are available on TEAMS
March 11	Grad Gown Sizing Order Due
March 11	Grad Dinner Dance Deposit (\$100) Due
April 10	Scholarship Applications are due
April 17	Valedictorian Nominations Submitted
April 21	Valedictorian Preview Speeches and Votes Lunch
April 29	Valedictorian Interviews
May 1	Valedictorian Announced
May 8	Grad Ceremony Message Due Maximum of 20 Words
May 8	Grad Dinner Dance Ticket Payment Due (less \$100 Deposit) Table Seating Arrangements Due (to Ms. Bighorn) for students paying in full
May 25	Grad Ceremony Tickets- Extra Tickets go on sale until June 15 (school cash online)
June 5	Grad Fees (\$85) Due
June 8	Graduation Assessments: Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année – Français langue seconde-immersion (LTF12) Final make-up date - Written
June 9	Dinner/Dance Ticket Distribution (Lunch Assembly)
June 9	Grad Rehearsal #1 (FIT Assembly) and Grad Gown Distribution
June 10	Graduation Assessments – (NME 10, LTE 10, LTE 12), Final make-up date
June 10	Graduation Assessments: Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année – Français langue seconde-immersion (LTF12) Final make-up date - Oral
June 11	Grad Rehearsal #2 (FIT Assembly)
June 12 🎓	Graduation Dinner & Dance (Fairmont Hotel Vancouver)
June 15 🎓	Graduation Ceremony (Orpheum Theatre, 7pm start)
June 18	French Immersion Graduation Celebration (Library)
June 22	Grad Cap Toss and Final Countdown (Front steps, 2:55pm)

PLEASE NOTE: The above are school-sponsored events. Therefore, all VSB and school rules and policies apply. If it is suspected that any student has consumed **any** drugs or alcohol before any event, they will not be allowed access.

GRADUATION CEREMONY- DETAILS

The staff of Vancouver Technical have traditionally held this celebration for those students who attend regularly and are achieving success in the courses required for graduation. This year's Graduation Ceremony will be held at the Orpheum Theatre at 601 Smith St, Vancouver, <https://vancouvercivictheatres.com/venues/orpheum/> on **Monday, June 15th, 2026**. The lobby doors open for guests at 6:00 pm, and access to seating will open at 6:30 pm. The ceremony will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. **Limited pay parking is available, so please plan to arrive early** (or take public transportation). Graduates must be at the theatre **by 6:00 pm at the latest**. Each student must have their gown and a ticket to enter the theatre; please enter using the Granville Street Entrance.

As this is a formal occasion, we expect everyone to be on their best behaviour. Applause is appreciated; whistling and shouting are not. Please turn off your cellular phones before you enter the theatre. Grads are to remain seated in their reserved seats throughout the ceremony. Families and guests are asked to remain seated until the ceremony and the formal recessional from the theatre are complete, allowing all parents and guests to see their graduates. Artona Studios will take a picture of each graduate as they cross the stage, and these pictures are mailed home to the grads in August.



GOWNS FOR GRAD CEREMONY: Grads will be provided with caps and gowns to wear at the ceremony. Grad caps, stoles, and gowns, along with the three complimentary tickets (1 for the student and 2 for guests) will be distributed during the FIT Assembly on Tuesday, June 9th. After the ceremony, the gowns will belong to the graduating students. Students are asked to choose their gown size by **Wednesday, March 11, 2026**. Link available with the QR code:

GRAD CEREMONY REHEARSAL: All grads are scheduled to attend two rehearsals in our auditorium on Tuesday, June 9th, and Thursday, June 11th, during FIT time. Attendance is mandatory, and students will be signed up on their behalf via *FITPlanner*.

GRADUATION CEREMONY MESSAGE: 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 of some kind." Remember that this will be read by a teacher/administrator, so it must be written in the third person (e.g. Emily is excited to be taking a year off in the fall and travelling around the world. She will miss her friends and family in Vancouver). Your message must be appropriate for a formal occasion, and no more than 20 words long. The ceremony messages are due on **Friday, May 8, 2026**. A link will be provided in mid-April.

TICKETS FOR GRAD CEREMONY: Each graduate will receive three complimentary tickets (one for the student and two for the student's guests) during the rehearsal on Tuesday, June 9th. There is a limited number of additional tickets available. Families can purchase additional tickets for \$10.00 each starting May 25th until June 15th on school cash online (<https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/>). Tickets purchased can be picked up in the office during lunch, or before and after school.

VALEDICTORIAN UPDATE: The Valedictorian Nomination Forms are available on March 5th and are due April 17th. The valedictorian preview speeches and votes will be held at lunch in the auditorium on April 21st, and the results will be announced on May 1st.

GRADUATION DINNER & DANCE

GRAD DINNER & DANCE: On **Friday, June 12th, 2026, at 6:15 pm**, Van Tech graduates will participate in a dinner and dance sponsored by the school and organized by the Grad Committee. The event will be held at the Fairmont Vancouver Hotel, with more details to follow in early June.

The Grad Committee has been fundraising to help lower costs, as they have each year. The final ticket price will be announced once the budget is finalized. Only Van Tech Grad 2026 class members in good standing can attend this event. To get an estimate of how many students plan to attend, students are asked to pay a \$100 deposit by **March 11th**.

- For students who have paid the \$100 deposit, please go to School Cash Online to pay the remaining balance (which will be announced in early May) by May 8th.
- After May 8th, students can purchase a ticket (if any remaining) in the office, in cash or by cheque.

- Students are asked to create a table arrangement in groups of 10 once dinner dance tickets are paid in full.

Grad Dinner & Dance Tickets will be distributed at lunch on June 9th.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS- CLC & CAPSTONE, GRADUATION ASSESSMENTS

CLC & CAPSTONE: All grade 12 students will create a Capstone Project as part of their graduation requirements in their Career Life Connection 12 (CLC) Class. A Capstone is a multi-faceted project that encourages research and experience as part of the student's exploration. Students have spent many hours delving into their interests, passions, and possible future paths in these culminating projects, and they will share the story of these explorations in their capstone. These Capstone projects might explore something the student is passionate about, an area that interests them deeply, or an attempt to answer, "Who am I, and what is the best path for me in the future?"

GRADUATION ASSESSMENTS: Students are required to write the Literacy 10, Numeracy 10 and Literary 12 assessments for graduation. Most students have completed these already. Please check with Mr. Van if you are unsure.

Grade 12 students who have not completed the Literacy 10, Numeracy 10, and/or Literacy 12 assessments can write them on June 10th. Details will follow.

For students who want to access their assessment results and a personalized performance report, go to [Student Transcripts Service](#) website and register for a BCeID. Once you have created an account to access the site, click on "Graduation Assessment/Provincial Exam Results" to view the results. Note, this site is where you can also "View Your Transcript," "Send/Order Your Transcript" as well as other options. The Ministry transcript contains only your completed courses, not in-progress courses.

If a grade 12 student wants to rewrite their Literacy 12 assessment, there will be an opportunity on Monday, June 10th. Please contact your Grade 12 Counsellor, Mr. Van to make arrangements.

SUMMER MAILOUT: If the graduation requirements are met, the Ministry of Education Dogwood Diploma will be mailed home at the end of August. 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 your graduation document.

As mentioned at the beginning of this letter, our Graduation (School Leaving) Ceremonies celebrate the completion of our students' secondary schooling. It is a privilege they have earned by attending regularly and by putting their best effort into their programs, especially the courses necessary for graduation. If you have concerns about your child's participation, please contact Mr Van.

We want to thank all the student members of our Grad Committee and their sponsor, Ms. Bighorn, for all the work, time and care invested in these events. Also, thank you, parents and caregivers, for supporting our graduates!

Sincerely,



Roberto Moro
Principal



Nick van Iersel
School Counsellor



Jelana Bighorn
Grad Committee Sponsor Teacher