



PRINCE OF WALES SECONDARY

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604-713-8974 · <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/prince-wales>

Important Information – Please Translate
 这是一份重要资讯 — 请找人為您翻譯 这是一份重要信息 — 请找人為您翻譯
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 Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch
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 महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें
 Información importante - Por favor traducir 重要な情報-翻訳してください
 중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다 معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

April 12, 2024

To: The Caregivers of our Grade 12 students, the Grads of 2024!

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform students and parents/guardians of the important information regarding the Graduation events including: Graduation School Leaving Ceremony and Dinner/Dance in June. Please read this notice carefully and contact the school office at 604. 713. 8974 if you have any questions.



Can you believe it... Grad 2024 is rapidly approaching! It is incredible how quickly the years have passed. We know this is the moment you have been waiting for since kindergarten graduation, and the moment your children have been working towards so diligently all these years. Every year, the staff of Prince of Wales Secondary sponsors a graduation ceremony and this year, the school has sanctioned the 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:

April 11	Getting Ready for Graduation Assembly (FIT Assembly)
April 15	Grad Ceremony Tickets - Extra Tickets go on sale (until June 3, \$10) PW Prom Tickets on Sale (Presale Price until April 30, \$135) PW Prom Guest Applications available in the office
April 19	Graduation Assessments – (NME 10, LTE 10, LTE 12), Final make-up date
May 1	PW Prom Tickets on Sale (Price, \$165) PW Prom Guest Applications Due
May 2	Graduation Family Information Night (Virtual, 7:00 pm)
May 6	Valedictorian Nominations Due (to office) Graduation Ceremony Message Due (online form posted on TEAMS)
May 9	MADD Presentation, "Final Play", FIT EXTENDED (1:10 PM- 2:15 PM), Auditorium
May 13	PW Prom Guest – last day to purchase tickets. PW Prom table groups due (to office)
May 21	Valedictorian Selection Assembly (FIT Assembly)
May 24	Last day to complete Media Consent for Keepsake Image
June 3	Last day to purchase additional Graduation Ceremony tickets and Prom tickets
June 11	Grad Gown Distribution, Graduation Dinner & Dance Ticket Distribution, & Grad rehearsal #1 (FIT (1:22-2:02 pm))
June 14 🎓	Graduation Dinner & Dance (Hyatt Regency Downtown, 5:30 pm)
June 20 🎓	Grad Rehearsal #2 (8:30- 10:00 am, Chan Centre- GRADS ONLY) Graduation Ceremony (Chan Centre, 1:30 pm)
June 24	Grad Cap Toss & Final Countdown (Flagpole, 2:55pm) Grad BBQ & Grad Keepsake Signing (Tentative, 3:00- 4:30 pm)

PLEASE NOTE: These 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 of our graduation events, they will not be allowed access.

GRADUATION CEREMONY- DETAILS

The staff of Prince of Wales Secondary have traditionally held this celebration for those students who attend regularly and who are achieving success in the courses required for graduation.

Graduation (Commencement) Ceremony Schedule
Thursday, June 20th – 1:30 pm (please be on time)
Chan Centre - 6265 Crescent Road, University of British Columbia

- 8:30 – 10:00 am Grad Rehearsal at the Chan Centre – **GRADS ONLY**
- 12:30 pm Students return to Chan Centre, please allow time for parking. Students **MUST** be on time! At this time, the Chan Centre lobby will open.
- 1:00 pm Doors open for general seating—tickets must be presented at the door.
- 1:30 pm Graduation Ceremony begins promptly at 1:30 pm.

As this is a formal occasion, we expect everyone to be on their very best behaviour. Applause is appreciated; whistling and shouting are not. Please turn off your cellular phones/any electronic devices 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 - this allows 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 in August to the grads.

The UBC Rose Gardens are available for PW use before and after the ceremony. However, gowns and sashes are rented and thus will be dropped off immediately after the ceremony. As such, please take all the pictures you want in gowns before the ceremony.

VALEDICTORIAN SELECTION: The Valedictorian is chosen by the Graduating Class to present the farewell address to parents, fellow students and staff, at the Graduation Ceremonies on June 20.

Nomination forms will be posted to students in April in the PW Student Hub, and are due May 6th. Valedictorian speeches and voting selection will take place in FIT (1:22-2:02 pm) on Tuesday May 21, 2024 in the auditorium.

GOWNS FOR GRAD CEREMONY: The grads will receive their gowns/stolls/hats as well as all complimentary and purchased tickets in their assembly in FIT (1:22-2:02 pm) Tuesday June 11th in the auditorium. Please make sure your child notes the day and time of the assembly.

GRAD CEREMONY REHEARSAL: Two rehearsals are planned for all grads. The first is an overview in our auditorium on Tuesday June 11th during FIT and a full rehearsal will be held on Thursday June 20th, from 8:30- 10:00 am at the Chan Centre. It is mandatory that all grads attend these events.

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 it must be 30-50 words long maximum and be submitted electronically using the form: [HERE](#). The ceremony messages are due on **Monday May 6th, 2024 by 4:00 pm.**

TICKETS FOR GRAD CEREMONY: Each graduate will receive two complimentary tickets (students do not need a ticket, student and two for the student's guests). There are a limited number of additional tickets available. Families can purchase up to 10 additional tickets for \$10.00 each starting April 15th until June 3rd on school cash online (<https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/>). Students will receive additional purchased tickets with their gown and complimentary tickets at the FIT assembly on June 11th. If you require more than the 10 additional tickets, more tickets (if available) can be purchased in the school office on June 12th- 14th.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE CHAN CENTRE ON THE DAY OF THE CEREMONY.

GRAD FEE: A grad fee of \$80 has been added to each graduate's account on [SchoolCashOnline](#), this covers all the costs involved with the graduation ceremony. All student accounts must be settled for students to participate in Graduation events. Reminders from accounting and the library for outstanding owed items will be sent out next week.

GRADUATION DINNER & DANCE

PW Prom – "Midnight in New York"
Friday June 14, 2024, 5:30 – 11:00 pm
Hyatt Regency Downtown, 655 Burrard St. Vancouver

We are pleased to announce this year's prom will be a school sanctioned event. This will be a magical night for grads, with dinner, dancing, photobooth and memories, set at the stunning Hyatt Regency Hotel downtown. Our parent committee has put a lot of effort already into the early planning of this event. Through donations, money from PAC and school, we are able to keep the cost as low as possible.



Don't miss out on an evening filled with laughter, dance, and memories that will last a lifetime. It's a night to celebrate your achievements and create stories for the future.

Get ready to make memories at the "Midnight in New York" Prom night. Purchase your tickets early, and let the countdown to an epic night begin!

PW Grad of 2024 class members in **good standing** can attend this event. Please note that per hotel policy, students may **not rent rooms** at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Vancouver or have others rent rooms on their behalf.

Tickets

Tickets can be purchased at [SchoolCashOnline](#) between April 15 - April 30 for a discounted pre-sale rate of \$135. May 1- June 3, prices will increase to \$165. Secure your place early to enjoy savings and be part of this sensational event. No student will be denied the opportunity to participate in this event because of an inability to pay this fee. Bursaries are available. Please contact Ms. Kauldher (in confidence).

Table Groups

Students attending PW Prom will need to sign up for table groups as **groups of 8** by May 13. All group members will need to have paid for their prom ticket before the submission.

Guests

Grade 12 may sponsor guests (Grade 11 PW or Grade 12 Secondary School Student) by completing an application and returning it to the office. Tickets for guests will be \$165. We can support 25 guests at the event.

April 15: Guest Applications available in the office

May 1: All guest applications due to the office

May 2- 9: Applications reviewed

May 10: Students notified of their guests' status

May 13: ALL guest tickets must be purchased

Donations

As parents of high school juniors and seniors, you know how much prom means to your children – it's not just a dance; it's a cherished milestone in their lives. We're reaching out to kindly request donations or sponsorships to help make this unforgettable event truly special.

If you're interested in supporting the prom, please consider contributing here. Every donation, no matter the size, will make a difference. Visit [SchoolCashOnline](#), **where it says "Select a Fund Destination", choose "S-Prince of Wales", enter your amount, AND in the Message box be sure to type in "PW Prom 2024". Tax receipts will be automatically issued for any amount over \$20.**

PW Prom Tickets will be distributed at a FIT assembly on June 11th.

We can't wait to see you all there! Have questions, want to help out, or want to share your excitement? We'd love to hear from you. Get in touch anytime at infopwprom2024@gmail.com

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 both research and experience as part of the student's exploration. Students have spent more than 30 hours delving into their interests, passions and possible future paths in these culminating projects and shared 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 is the student's attempt to answer, "Who am I, and what is the best path for me in the future?" *Note: if a student does not complete CLC & Capstone, they will not graduate.*

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

Grade 12 students who have not completed any of the Numeracy 10, Literacy 10 Assessment or Grade 12 students who have not completed the Literacy 12 Assessment will have another opportunity on **Friday April 19, 2024 8:30-11:40 am in the library** to meet this graduation requirement. Your counsellor will contact you with a reminder, time, and room number.

For students who wrote the Literacy 12 assessment in January 2023, results should be posted. If a grade 12 student would like to rewrite their Literacy 12 assessment, there will be an opportunity on Friday April 19, 2023—please contact Mr. Tse.

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.

Please note,

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 Prince of Wales Secondary School.

UPCOMING GRADUATION EVENTS

May 9, 2024: MADD Presentation, "Final Play", FIT EXTENDED (1:10 PM- 2:15 PM), Auditorium

MADD Canada's School Programs bring high-energy drug and alcohol impaired driving awareness and risk reduction messaging to the world of education. Youth and school programming have been a key component of MADD Canada's youth services, education and awareness initiatives since 1994. The programs are designed to communicate directly with young people on their level and in their language and encourage them to take a closer look at their values and perceptions. MADD Canada's School Presentation is a powerful dramatization about the tragic consequences of impaired driving. The video ends with testimonials from real-life victims who share their heartbreaking stories with the audience. It is an interactive presentation where students reflect, discuss and have an opportunity to ask questions.

June 24 2024: Grad Cap Toss & Final Countdown, Grad BBQ & Grad Keepsake Signing

Grad Cap Toss & Final Countdown

We are hoping to start some graduation traditions this year. On the last day of classes, June 24th- we will ask grads to bring their graduation caps and meet at the front of the school in front of the flagpole at 2:55 pm. We will countdown the last day of high school, ring the school bell and they can toss their caps! We will ensure to take photos and parents are welcome to join us!

Graduation Keepsake

As there is not a yearbook this year, we are working with a student committee who will be designing and creating a grad keepsake book. This book will contain photos, graduation photos and signing pages. On June 24th, we plan to distribute this keepsake and have an opportunity for grads to sign each other's keepsakes. This keepsake will be a graduation gift from the school. A special media consent will be required for each graduate. **In order for your child to be included in this, we need you to please log in to <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca/> and fill out the "Gr 12 Personal Info Consent for School Yearbook", as soon as possible, but by May 24 at the latest.**

Graduation BBQ

During the June 24th Event, we are hoping to have food available for the grads to enjoy while celebrating their last day formal of classes of high school and signing their graduation keepsake book. Please note, last day of school is June 27 and Learning Updates will be published then. **We are looking for parent volunteers to help plan the event.** If you are interested, please email Ms. Kauldher (skauldher@vsb.bc.ca) with any ideas (food trucks, BBQ ideas etc.)

Our Graduation Committee is also planning grad spirit days, movie nights and more...STAY TUNED!

We remind our students to check TEAMS- both the PW Student Hub and Grade 12 Student Team, listen to the PA Announcements and check out the PW Grad Committee Instagram (@PW GRADS 2024) for important updates and information.

For caregivers, we will be hosting a **Graduation Family Information meeting (Virtual) on May 2 @ 7:00 pm** to review this information, go over expectations and answer any questions. Please save the date! Register for the virtual event [HERE](#).

As we mentioned at the beginning of this letter, our Graduation (Commencement) 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 our Grade 12 Counsellor, Mr. Chris Tse (ctse@vsb.bc.ca)

We would like to thank all the student and parent members of our Grad and Prom Committee, for all of the work, time and care invested in these events, and thank you, parents and guardians, for your support of our graduates!

We look forward to participating in these events with you, as we celebrate the achievements of our graduating class or 2024!

Thank you,



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