

PRINCE OF WALES SECONDARY 2250 Eddington Drive Vancouver, B.C. V6L 2E7 604-713-8974 · https://www.vsb.bc.ca/prince-wales

Información importante - Por favor traducir 중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다 重要な情報-翻訳してください معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

To: The Caregivers of our Grade 12 students, the Grads of 2025

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 2025 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 continuing this year, the school has sanctioned the dinner-dance (PW Prom) 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:**

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April 17	Getting Ready for Graduation Assembly (FIT Assembly)
	Graduation Ceremony Message Due (online form posted on TEAMS)
April 22	PW Prom Tickets on Sale (Early Bird Price until May 2, \$135, May 2- May 23, \$150)
	PW Prom Guest Applications available in the office
May 26	Grad Ceremony Tickets - Extra Tickets go on sale (until June 6, \$10)
May 2	PW Prom Tickets on Sale (Price, \$150)
	Valedictorian Nominations Due (to Mr. Morgan)
	PW Prom Guest applications due (to the office)
May 12	PW Prom Guest – last day to purchase tickets.
	PW Prom table groups due (to office)
May 13	Valedictorian Selection Assembly (FIT: 1:22-2:02 pm, Auditorium)
May 23	Last day to purchase Prom Tickets
June 6	Last day to purchase additional Graduation Ceremony tickets
June 11	Grad Gown Distribution, Graduation Dinner & Dance Ticket Distribution, & Grad
	rehearsal #1 (FIT: 1:22-2:02 pm, Auditorium)
June 13 🗲	
June 13	Graduation Dinner & Dance (Fairmont- Hotel Vancouver, 5:30 pm)
June 17	Grad Rehearsal #2 (FIT: 1:22-2:02 pm, Auditorium)
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June 19 🗲	Grad Rehearsal #3 (8:30- 10:00 am, Chan Centre- GRADS ONLY)
	Graduation Ceremony (Chan Centre, 1:30 pm)
June 23	Grad Cap Toss & Final Countdown (Flagpole, 2:55pm)
	Grad BBQ& Yearbook Signing (Tentative, 3:00- 4:30 pm)

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> These are school-sponsored events. Therefore, all VSB and school rules and policies apply. If it is suspected that any student has consumed <u>any</u> 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 19th – 1:30 pm (please be on time) Chan Centre - 6265 Crescent Road, University of British Columbia		
8:30 <b>-</b> 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 <b>MUST</b> 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. Your cooperation in maintaining a respectful and celebratory atmosphere is appreciated. Whistling and shouting are not appropriate during the ceremony. Please ensure all cellular phones and electronic devices are turned off before entering the theatre.

Graduates are expected to remain seated in their designated areas for the duration of the ceremony. Families and guests are kindly asked to remain seated until the conclusion of the ceremony and the formal recessional. This ensures that all guests have a clear view of their graduates as they cross the stage.

Artona Studios will photograph each graduate during their moment on stage, and these photos will be mailed to graduates' homes in August.

The UBC Rose Gardens will be available for Prince of Wales students and their families both before and after the ceremony. This year, graduates will receive souvenir gowns to keep, which can be worn for photos and celebrations following the event.

**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 19.

Nomination forms will be posted to students in April in the PW Student Hub and paper copies are available in the office. Nominations are due **May 2<sup>nd</sup> to Mr. Morgan**. Valedictorian speeches and voting selection will take place in FIT (1:22-2:02 pm) on Tuesday May 13, 2025 in the auditorium.

<u>GOWNS FOR GRAD CEREMONY</u>: The grads will receive their gowns/stolls/caps as well as all complimentary and purchased tickets in their assembly during FIT (1:22-2:02 pm) Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium. Please make sure your child notes the day and time of the assembly. This year, students will receive souvenir gowns that they will keep. Costs of these gowns are included in the grad fee.

<u>GRAD CEREMONY REHEARSAL</u>: All graduates are required to attend three scheduled rehearsals to ensure a smooth and successful ceremony:

- Tuesday, June 11 FIT Assembly, Auditorium
  Distribution of graduation materials and a brief overview of the ceremony process.
- Monday, June 17 FIT Assembly, Auditorium
  More detailed information about the ceremony and cues will be shared.
- **Thursday, June 19 (8:30–10:00 AM)** Full Rehearsal at the Chan Centre Full run-through of the ceremony at the venue.

Attendance at all rehearsals is mandatory for graduating students. These sessions are essential to ensure everyone is prepared and confident for the big day.

**<u>GRADUATION CEREMONY MESSAGE</u>**: Each graduate is required to submit a brief message, between 30 and 50 words, which will be read aloud by a teacher or administrator as they cross the stage during the ceremony. This message should be written in the third person—for example, "Emily is excited to take a gap year to travel and explore new opportunities. She is grateful for the friendships and memories she's made at PW."

Your message can include a mix of future plans, fond memories, acknowledgments, or a thoughtful reflection on your time at PW. Please ensure that the tone is appropriate for a formal event.

Messages were due electronically on April 17. Mr. Morgan will follow up with any students who have not yet submitted theirs. If you would like to make changes to your original submission, please speak with Mr. Morgan directly.

**TICKETS FOR GRAD CEREMONY:** Each graduate will receive two complimentary tickets (students <u>do</u> <u>not</u> need a ticket; two tickets 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 May 26<sup>th</sup> until June 6<sup>th</sup> on school cash online (<u>https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com/</u>). Students will receive purchased tickets with their gown and complimentary tickets at the FIT assembly on June 11<sup>th</sup>. If you require more than the 10 additional tickets, more tickets (if available) can be purchased in the school office on June 11<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup>.

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

**<u>GRAD FEE:</u>** A grad fee of \$80 has been added to each graduate's account on <u>SchoolCashOnline</u>, this covers all the costs involved with the <u>graduation ceremony</u>. 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.

#### PW Prom – "A Night in the City" Friday June 13, 2024, 5:30 – 11:00 pm Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, 900 W. Georgia 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 Fairmont Hotel Vancouver downtown. Our grad committee has put a lot of effort already into the early planning of this event. Through fundraising, 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 "A Night in the City" Prom night. Purchase your tickets early, and let the countdown to an epic night begin!

PW Grad of 2025 class members in **good standing** can attend this event. Please note that per hotel policy, students may **not rent rooms** at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver or have others rent rooms on their behalf. Students attending the PW prom are expected to hand in a signed code of conduct to the office by May 23.

## Tickets

Tickets can be purchased at <u>SchoolCashOnline</u> between April 22 - May 2 for a discounted pre-sale rate of \$135. May 3- May 23, prices will increase to \$150. 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-<u>skauldher@vsb.bc.ca</u> (in confidence).

## Table Groups

Students attending PW Prom will need to sign up for table groups as **groups of 10** by May 23. All group members will need to have submitted their code of conduct **and** paid for their prom ticket before the submission. Process will be shared on the Student Hub shortly.

#### 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 \$150. We can support 25 guests at the event.

April 22: Guest Applications available in the office May 2: All guest applications due to the office May 2-7: Applications reviewed May 7: Students notified of their guests' status May 12: ALL guest tickets must be purchased

## Donations

As parents of graduating students, 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 <u>SchoolCashOnline</u>, 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 2025". Tax receipts will be automatically issued for any amount over \$20.

PW Prom Tickets will be distributed at a FIT assembly on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

# **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS- CLC & CAPSTONE, GRADUATION ASSESSMENTS**

<u>CLC & CAPSTONE:</u> 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.

<u>**GRADUATION ASSESSMENTS:**</u> 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.

For students who wrote the Literacy 12 assessment in January 2025, results should be posted.

For students who want to access their assessment results and a personalized performance report, go to <u>Student Transcripts Service</u> 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 <u>end of</u> <u>August</u>, 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**

#### June 23, 2025: Grad Cap Toss & Final Countdown, Grad BBQ & Yearbook Signing

#### Grad Cap Toss & Final Countdown

On the last day of formal classes, June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 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 BBQ & Yearbook Signing

To mark the final day of formal classes, we're planning a special celebration for the graduating class on June 23. We're excited to have a food truck on site for grads to enjoy while signing yearbooks and celebrating together. A big thank you to the PAC for generously sponsoring this event!

Please note that the official last day of school is June 26, when final Learning Updates will be published.

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

We remind our students to check emails, TEAMS (The PW Student Hub) listen to the PA Announcements and check out the PW Grad Committee Instagram (@PWGRAD2025) for important updates and information.

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 or any other questions, please contact our Grade 12 Counsellor, Mr. Scott Morgan (samorgan@vsb.bc.ca)

We would like to thank all the student members of our Grad 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 of 2025!

Thank you,

Sangeeta A. Kauldher (she/her) Principal skauldher@vsb.bc.ca

Joel Nelson (he/him) Vice Principal inelson@vsb.bc.ca

Scott Morgan (he/him) Grade 12 Counsellor samorgan@vsb.bc.ca