

DAVID THOMPSON SECONDARY SCHOOL

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April 10, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 12 Students:

As Grade 12 students head into their final few months of high school we would like to inform you of important details related to both the School Leaving Ceremony and Dry Grad Dinner Dance for our graduating class of 2019.

Your child's School Leaving Ceremony will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre beginning at 7:00 pm on the night of Tuesday, June 4th, 2019. Guests should be seated prior to this time, as the grad processional will begin promptly at 7:00 pm.

All Grade 12 students are required to attend a mandatory grad rehearsal at David Thompson Secondary on Friday, May 24th, at 1:45 pm. Royal blue graduation gowns with white vee stoles will be issued at this rehearsal. The gown, stole, and cap are for students to keep.

At the grad rehearsal, each Grade 12 student will receive four free ceremony invitations for four guests to attend the ceremony. They will also receive any additional ceremony invitations that were purchased online, as well as their prom dinner/dance ticket if they purchased one.

A limited number of extra invitations will be available for purchase at \$8 each through the online payment system. A link to the online payment website can be found on the David Thompson website <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/thompson/Pages/default.aspx>. Families will initially be limited to an additional 4 invitations until May 13th. After that, unlimited additional invitations will be available online on a first come, first served basis. Invitations can also be purchased at lunch time between May 13-17 outside Ms. Tsui's office. **Please note that invitations will not be available for purchase the night of the ceremony and that there will be no admittance to the Queen Elizabeth Theatre without an invitation.**

Seating at the ceremony is on a first come first served basis; therefore, it is best to arrive early. Over 2,000 guests are expected at the ceremony. Parking around the Theatre will likely be challenging and guests should allow themselves extra time to accommodate for this.

Although the ceremony begins at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 4th, **students are required to report to the balcony of the Queen Elizabeth Theatre for marshalling no later than 6:15 pm that night.**

Students are reminded not to bring any bags, umbrellas, etc., with them that night as there will be no place to store these belongings. Please hold on to these items for your graduate.

David Thompson CARES

Connections Accountability Respect Encouragement Safety

“Custodio Photographers” will be on site during the ceremony to take pictures as the grads cross the stage. Each student will receive a complimentary copy of their photo shaking the Principal’s hand. (Please be aware that due to the City of Vancouver Fire Marshall’s regulations you will not be able to stand in the aisles to take pictures during the ceremony.)

David Thompson’s Dry Grad Dinner Dance will take place on the night of Friday, June 14th. This final opportunity to be together as the Class of 2019 will take place in the Crystal Ballroom of the Pan Pacific Hotel. Tickets to this event cost \$120 and can be purchased online now (via the David Thompson website) or in person in the main office. Students will need to sign up for a dinner table at lunch time between May 13-17 outside Ms. Tsui’s office. School staff and hired security personnel jointly supervise this event. Only members of the Class of 2019 are able to attend the Dry Grad. **Please note that tickets to the Dinner Dance will not be available for purchase the night of the event and that there will be no admittance to the Crystal Ballroom without an invitation.** Doors to this event will open at 6:00 pm.

Dry Grad activities are meant to provide a safe, supervised environment for our students to celebrate their high school graduation. **Should it become necessary for a student to leave during the evening, a parent/guardian will be contacted and will be responsible for ensuring the safe pick-up of his/her child.** Once students leave the Dry Grad they are unable to return.

A reminder as well that the Board of School Trustees believes that “... proper (student) behavior is essential to the development of responsible and self-disciplined citizens and essential to the operation of an effective school”; therefore, the possession, consumption, or use of alcohol or drugs at school functions is prohibited and contrary to any code of conduct established in all Vancouver schools.

Please review the contents of this letter with your son and/or daughter. Please contact the school directly should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rick Lopez
Principal, David Thompson Secondary School