



Sullivan Heights Grad' 17 Parent Update – February

Dear Parent or Guardian of a Grade 12 Student,

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you of the plans for the celebration recognizing this year's graduating class – the Class of 2017. This newsletter contains very important information regarding upcoming dates and activities. Please share the information in this newsletter with your son/daughter and do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you require further information.

The next few months are extremely busy and very important to our grads and we hope you will continue to support them in fully participating in their studies. We also ask for your support and encourage you and your son or daughter to get involved in helping to make the graduation activities for this year successful and memorable for our graduates.

This newsletter and other updates are available on the school website at www.sullivanheights.ca

Raj P. Puri,
Principal

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| January 15 | Grad write-ups due for yearbook and commencement |
| February 20 | In-School Scholarship & District Dogwood application form available on-line (Click here) |
| March 27 | Grad Dinner Dance guest passes available. (Click here) |
| March 27 | Valedictorian applications open (Click here) |
| April 7 | Valedictorian applications deadline - 4:00pm. (Click here) |
| April 7 | Grad Dinner Dance guest passes <u>due back</u> into the office for approval. (Click here) |
| April 18 | In-School Scholarship & District Dogwood applications deadline - 4:00pm. (Click here) |
| April 26 | Commencement gown order forms due. (Click here) Grad fee and all other outstanding debts due. |
| April 27 | Grade 12 assembly - 9:30am in theatre |
| May 02 | Grad & Guest Meeting 4:00pm with Admin. |
| May 03 | Commencement tickets (2 free per student) distributed in Period 3 |
| May 8-12 | Grad Dinner Dance (\$100) and Dry Grad ticket (\$110) sales at lunch in hub. |
| May 12 | <u>Last day</u> to submit request form for additional Commencement tickets to the office. |
| May 12 | <u>Last day</u> to purchase Grad Dinner Dance (\$100) and Dry Grad (\$110) tickets |
| May 15-19 | Additional Commencement tickets available for pickup & payment (\$5 each) in the office. |
| June 7 | Commencement Rehearsal -1:00pm in the theatre. Gown distribution |
| June 7 | Commencement Ceremony – 7:00pm |
| June 16 | Coat Check for Dry Grad in library - 7:30am-8:30am |
| June 16 | Grads arrive at Sullivan Heights with parents for grad sign-in & reception - 4:00pm Grads board coach busses and leave for Swaneset Bay Resort – 5:00pm Grad Banquet at Swaneset Bay Resort - 5:45pm - 11:00pm |
| June 16-17 | Dry Grad at the Cloverdale Rec. Centre in Surrey - 11:30pm - 5:00am |

Graduation Requirements

By this time, your son or daughter will have had one opportunity already to review his/her transcript verification. This document reviews all the courses taken during the graduation program (grades 10-12) and graduation status. If you are concerned about whether or not your son or daughter will be graduating, please contact your son/daughter's counsellor. Students who are not in a position to graduate this year will not participate in the Commencement Ceremonies.

Grad Transition Plan

All graduating students must complete a Grad Transition Plan in order to meet the Ministry of Education requirements for Graduation. Please contact Ms. Rogerson or Ms. Pacheco in the Career Centre office for more details.

Reminders

Scholarships

Graduating students are encouraged to apply on-line ([Click here](#)) using the school website for In-School Scholarships as well as the District Dogwood Scholarships. Remember to research your family contacts, clubs, unions, workplaces, banks, etc. as well. Organize and submit your documents well in advance. For letters of reference or recommendation, choose people who know you well and can describe your achievements. Contact them well in advance. Note deadlines carefully!!! Applications for the scholarships are done on-line and are due by 4pm on **April 18th**. Our scholarship chair is Ms. A. Becker.

Fees and Commencement Gown Order Form

All fees must be paid for by **April 26th** before students purchase their Grad Dinner Dance/Dry Grad tickets as well as their Commencement tickets.

- \$50 Grad Fee
- All other outstanding fees

As well Commencement Gown order forms ([Click here](#)) are due back to the school office by **April 26th**.

Reminders

Post-Secondary Institution

Selections Form (PSI)

Students planning to attend a college or university will need to provide their transcript information to those institutions. You are able to provide that information electronically to a number of post-secondary institutions by completing an electronic Post Secondary Institutions Selections form on line. This is available from January to June of each school year via the Student Secure Web Page on the Ministry Web Site ([Click here](#)).

You must know your PEN number and create an account to do this. You can find your PEN number printed on the top of each of your report cards.

The 2017 Class Valedictorian

Students will have an opportunity to submit applications for Class Valedictorian. Applications ([Click here](#)) are open **March 27, 2017**. Applications can be picked up at the school office or found on the school website, and are due back to the office by 4pm on **April 7th**. The successful candidate will be selected by the Valedictorian Committee and student vote.

Guest Passes

Students who would like to bring a guest, who is not a grade 12 Sullivan Heights student to the Grad Dinner Dance at Swaneset Bay Resort can pick up a form ([Click here](#)) from the office starting Monday, **March 27th**. Please fill out the form and hand it in to the office by Friday, **April 7th**. The administration must approve all guests before tickets can be purchased. The approved and signed Guest Pass is required at the time tickets are purchased.

Grad Dinner and Dry Grad Timeline **Friday, June 16, 2017**

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| 7:30-8:30am | Coat Check in school library – Bag with change of clothes for the Dry Grad event must be dropped off at the school library. As well please include a hanger and labelled garment bag. All bags will be transported to the Dry Grad event. <u>No bags should be brought to Swaneset as there is no bag check.</u> |
| 4:00pm | Grads arrive at Sullivan Heights with their parents for grad sign-in & reception |
| 4:00pm | Reception at Sullivan Heights for grads & parents |
| 4:30pm | Principal welcome and toast to grads and parents |
| 4:40pm | Parent/student dance |
| 5:00pm | Parents leave |
| 5:00pm | Grads board coach busses for Grad Dinner Dance at Swaneset in Pitt Meadows |
| 5:45pm | Grads arrive at Swaneset |
| 6:00pm | Grad photo |
| 6:10pm | Staff photo |
| 6:15pm | Grad dinner |
| 7:15pm | Grad dinner program (speeches, slideshow, etc.) |
| 11:00pm | Grad Dinner Dance finished |
| 11:00pm | Begin boarding coach buses in Pitt Meadows (Swaneset) for Dry Grad event. Students may not arrange their own transportation to the Dry Grad. All Dry Grad attendees must take the bus. |
| 11:30pm | Grads arrive at the Cloverdale Rec. Centre for Dry Grad. |
| 5:00am | Parents pick up students from the Cloverdale Rec. Centre. |

Grad Dinner and Dance

The 2017 Dinner/Dance will be held on **Friday, June 16 2017** from **4:00pm - 11:00pm** starting at Sullivan Heights Secondary, with the students boarding coach busses for Swaneset Bay Resort 16651 Rannie Rd., Pitt Meadows.

Students will select a table for the banquet when they purchase tickets. Ticket sales will take place from **Monday, May 8th to Friday, May 12th**. Tickets for the **Grad Dinner Dance are \$100 each**. Due to limited seating grads will only be able to purchase a ticket for themselves and one student guest. Students may not owe debts or be on academic probation (must be in good standing in all classes) in order to purchase tickets.

*****Parents will need to drop off their child at Sullivan Heights at 4:00pm on Friday, June 16.** All students participating in the Grad Dinner Dance **must be signed in by a parent at the school**. Once grads have been signed in by a parent, parents are encouraged to stay and take pictures as well as take part in the parent student dance prior to the grads boarding coach busses for the Grad Dinner Dance at Swaneset in Pitt Meadows.***

No student will be allowed into the Grad Dinner Dance or Dry Grad unless transported by coach busses provided by the school. If students are not participating in Dry Grad, parents must pick up students from the Cloverdale Rec. Centre at 11:30pm.

The sponsors for Grad Council are Ms. Gill, Ms. Hearty, Ms. Kailla, Mr. Nilson and Ms. Phillips.

****This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and students are reminded that the Grad Dinner Dance is a school-sponsored event. All school rules apply - use of alcohol or drugs before or during these events will result in removal from the events and disciplinary action****

Dry Grad

June 16-17, 2017 (Friday & Saturday)

A committee of parents has been working hard all year to coordinate this event which takes place immediately after the Grad Dinner Dance. Students **must take the coach bus** from the Grad Dinner Dance directly to the Dry Grad event. ****Students may not use private transportation to get to Dry Grad****. Many fun activities and prizes will be offered to students at this drug and alcohol-free evening.

1. **Dry Grad tickets are \$110 each** (early bird sales ended Nov. 25, 2016) and will be on sale Monday, May 8th to Friday, May 12th.
2. Students **must take the coach bus** from the Grad Dinner Dance at Swaneset Bay Resort to the Cloverdale Rec. Centre for the Dry Grad event, no private transportation will be allowed.
3. Change of clothing for the Dry Grad event must be dropped off at the school library along with a hanger and labelled garment bag on Friday, June 16, 2017 between 7:30-8:30am. No bags will be allowed at the Swaneset Bay Resort and brought to the Dry Grad event. No outside food or drinks will be allowed at Dry Grad.
4. Please contact Mary-Anne Dailly at daillyma@telus.net for further details.

Commencement

The Commencement Ceremony will be held on **Wednesday, June 7th, 2017 at 7:00pm at The Bell Performing Arts Centre** at Sullivan Heights Secondary School. Students should report to the large gym at 6:00pm to prepare for the processional and ceremony. The Commencement Ceremony for families and friends of grade 12 students will start at 7:00pm in the theatre with doors opening at 6:30pm. Tickets must be presented at the door. Grads do not need tickets but all family/guests must have tickets.

Commencement statements were done on-line and were due Jan.15th. Changes to statements after that date (ie. won a scholarship you'd like to include in your statement) can be made with Mr. Nilson in Room B109.

A mandatory rehearsal on Wednesday, June 7th at 1:00pm in the theatre will start the official preparations for the commencement activities. All grads must attend this practice where they will receive important information about their grad gowns and procedures for the Commencement Ceremony.

After the rehearsal, grads will pick up their caps and gowns from the small gym. We encourage grads to go home and take photos with family and friends at this time. At the end of the ceremony, grads are required to immediately return their gowns. Grads who do not return their gowns will be charged for the replacement cost.

Grads will receive two (2) free tickets. These tickets will be distributed to students on May 3rd in their Period 3 classes. Students who are absent on May 3rd and students with a study in Period 3 can pick up their tickets from the school office in the afternoon of May 3rd right up to May 8th, 2017. Tickets not claimed by May 8th, 2017 may be re-allocated. **Students who owe debts or are on academic probation (must be in good standing in all classes) will not be issued tickets.**

Families should also be aware that this formal ceremony often lasts two hours and is not suitable for small children who have difficulties sitting quietly. Students requiring additional tickets can submit a request form to the office (request form is given out along with the 2 free tickets). A maximum of 2 additional tickets may be requested and tickets will cost \$5 each. The last day to submit request forms is Fri. May 12th. Requests after May 12th, 2017, will not be considered. Due to limited seating, there are no guarantees that requests will be honoured. Additional tickets can be picked up and paid for May 15-19, 2017 at the school office. All proceeds will go towards scholarships.

Ms. Barry and Ms. Nielsen co-chair the Commencement Committee.