



### April 2021

#### Important Grad Dates

#### Baby Photo due now!

April 28- @7pm	Parent Grad Zoom meeting
April 30-	Grad fees due
July 5-9-	Commencement Ceremonies

### Graduation 2021

In a year filled with uncertainty, our goal is to provide each graduate with a positive, memorable experience. VSS has taken a proactive approach to the planning of commencements for the 2021 Graduating class. Two scenarios were put forward in the November 2020 Graduation newsletter. Due to recent health and safety measures being put in place, we have decided Scenario B has been adjusted to satisfy Provincial health and safety restrictions.

#### Scenario B

A graduation ceremony, similar to 2020 will take place at Valleyview Secondary School during the week of July 5-9. In compliance with current social gathering/restriction guidelines, students will cross the stage individually. Each graduate will be allowed guests from their immediate family/household.

As we receive more information from the School Board and the Provincial Health Authority, we will be sending home email updates regarding the structure of Graduation 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Faisthuber at the school (250-372-5231). Thank you.

### Grad 2021 Parent Meeting

Graduation 2021 is going to look a little different than previous ceremonies. Administration at VSS knows that there may be some questions regarding Commencements. We will be hosting a Zoom meeting on April 28th at 7pm to field questions from you, the parents. Please use this link to join in <https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/69464335427?pwd=YjFFMWwwcS96UFU0a0ZqZlp2eHZ2UT09>

### SAFE GRAD COMMITTEE

The Safe Grad parent group has put out a timeline of their events as well:

*After months of planning and closely following public health guidelines, the Grad Parent Executive Committee has made a collective decision to organize a 2-day event for Grads that will allow for the most flexibility in terms of changing public health guidelines and restrictions. The finalized plans include a Grand March at the Pow-Wow grounds mid-late morning on*

Friday, July 9th followed

by an Amazing Race - a fun and interactive event full of games and activities - which will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, July 10th. The specific format of these events will be dictated by public health guidelines that are in place come July. Due to our fundraising efforts and scaled down events, ticket prices will be nominal. Please follow us on Facebook, VSS Grad 2021, for more information.

### First Nations Graduation

Information to be added soon.

### Who is Eligible to Participate in Grad Activities?

In order to participate in Grad activities, a student must be working on and passing the last four classes required for graduation. Every year some students lose their eligibility because they stop working in school.

Grad Commencement fees **must** be paid by the deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### Graduating Students Taking Online Courses

Please see your counsellor regarding progress in online courses. If you no longer want to continue with a course, you must formally withdraw with your on-line school or it may prevent you from graduating. Please see a counsellor for assistance if necessary.

### Career Life and Government Numeracy Assessment

#### YOU WILL NOT GRADUATE IF Career 12 IS INCOMPLETE!

Career Life 12 is a course that is a requirement for graduation. **Please don't let an incomplete Career 12 course be the reason you have not graduated.** If you are unsure if you have taken the numeracy assessment (most likely in grade 10 or 11), please see Mrs. McKenna in counselling and she can tell you.

### Graduating Students who are Moving

You will need to provide the school with your change of address information to ensure that your transcript and graduation certificates can be mailed to you over the summer /fall months.

Exception: If you are moving to attend college or university you do not need to let us know. Your documents will be mailed to your home address that we have on file.

### Grad Fees - Due April 30, 2021

Grad fees cover the cost of most but not all of the costs associated with graduation. The following items are included:

- Grad gown and stole purchase
- Cap and tassel purchase
- Decorations
- Printing of programs and invitations
- Commencement diploma and photograph



**Grad fees for 2021 are \$55 and are payable at the Main Office.**

### GRAD PHOTOS

During your appointment, you were given a webcode. It was also sent to your email. To purchase Grad photos go to [orders.mountainwest.ca](http://orders.mountainwest.ca) Enter your webcode and email address and follow the instructions from there.

### GRAD Logo Contest Winner

This years design was submitted by Twyla Leon. Students and parents can order items from the Grad 2021 Google classroom or by visiting this link [https://valleyviewclassof2021.itemorder.com/sale?read\\_message=true](https://valleyviewclassof2021.itemorder.com/sale?read_message=true). Orders are due April 25<sup>th</sup>.



### Technology and Accessibility

The following pieces will be filmed prior to VSS commencements and made available for your viewing:

- Principals Address
- Valedictorians Address
- Land Acknowledgment
- Greetings from the Board

VSS is also working on increasing the availability of the WIFI network during commencements. This will allow guests to facetime or stream their students' ceremonies in real time to other family members and friends.

### Transcripts for Post Secondary Institutions

Student Transcripts Service (STS) is an online application for students to view their school marks, scholarships and transcript, and to send transcripts electronically.

**Get Started** – To register for STS students will need:

- Personal Education Number (PEN). This can be found on the top of the report card
- Full legal name
- Date of birth
- Email address

### Steps

- 1) Go to the Ministry of Education's Transcript and Certificates website at <http://www.StudentTranscripts.gov.bc.ca>
- 2) Students must register for a BC Government account (a **BCeID**). Follow the system prompts and register for STS. Finally log-in to Student Transcripts Service using the **BCeID**.
- 3) From a student's dashboard make post-secondary

institution selections, view transcript, view assessment

results, and send transcripts immediately.

Applying to BC public universities and colleges also just got easier! Students can do it all: search, plan and apply on [EducationPlannerBC.ca](http://EducationPlannerBC.ca).

**\*If you want your interim and final marks to be sent directly to post secondary institutions, please ensure that you have made your request through the student transcript service by May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

### Ministry of Education Scholarships

**BC Achievement Scholarship** - This \$1250 scholarship will be awarded to the top 8000 graduates in the province. It is based on the students' achievement in grades 10, 11 and 12, including elective courses. A cumulative average percentage will be calculated to determine student eligibility.

### District/Authority Scholarship

This is a \$1250 scholarship given to 5500 graduating BC students for excellence in their chosen area of interest or strength.

**Scholarship deadlines range from April 15th to May 1st. Packages are online.** Keep up to date on scholarship and grad information via the link below Check under the **More** tab, then **News** as well as the **Awards** tab.

<https://studentservicesvss.weebly.com/>

### Baby Photos

Grad baby photos are due now in to the counselling department. They will be used during the Commencement Ceremony slide show. Please e-mail your good quality photo to [kmckenna@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:kmckenna@sd73.bc.ca) **Please ensure you have first and last name in the subject line of your e-mail and send in j-peg format.**