



2024 Graduation June Event Newsletter

Includes important information about both below events:

Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, June 15th, 2024

1pm - 4pm (approx. 3 hours)

The Centre/Westside Church

777 Homer Street, Vancouver

Graduation Banquet & Dance

Saturday, June 22nd, 2024

5pm – 10:30pm

Vancouver Convention Centre

West Ballroom C & D

1055 Canada Place, Vancouver

Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, June 15th, 2024

1pm - 4pm (approx. 3 hours)

The Centre/Westside Church

777 Homer Street, Vancouver

Graduates to arrive at 12:00pm

Doors open for guests at 12:30pm

Ceremony begins at 1:00pm

Estimated ceremony event length is three hours

Grad Write-Ups

- Students must submit a Grad “Write-up” to be read at the Commencement by **Thursday, May 16th, 2024**. The “Write-up fillable Form” can be found on the Grad Google classroom.

Grad Carnival

- We are hosting a complimentary BBQ lunch and fun activities for all Grads at lunch and during period 4 on **Friday, May 31st**. We encourage all Grads to participate.

Grad Gown Information

- Grad gowns will be **handed out on Friday, June 7th, at 3:00pm** in the cafeteria.
- All grads must attend a **mandatory rehearsal for Commencement during lunchtime on Friday, June 14th** in the Sentinel Gym. Attendance is crucial. Do not bring your gown to rehearsal.
- The gowns are for the grads to keep. Please take it home for pictures but be sure to wear your cap & gown at the ceremony.
- Grads should wear dress shoes, dark dress pants or skirts underneath their gown.
- This is a formal event; jeans, flip flops, sandals, or runners are inappropriate.
- On the day of Commencement, **all Grads MUST be at The Centre by 12pm WEARING THEIR CAPS & GOWNS.**
- Grads must line up in alphabetical order, in their gowns on the top two floors of the venue.
- The Commencement fee of \$50 covers the cost of the event, including gowns, caps, gold cords, picture portfolios, venue rental, etc. Since this is a ceremony to honor graduates, and not a requirement for graduation, the fee is permissible. This fee appeared on all graduating students’ fee statements at the beginning of the year. Please check with Ms. Allison Carruthers acarruthers@wvschools.ca and ensure it has been paid.
- We will host a “**Grad Parade**” at the school the **week of June 17th**. More details to come.

Commencement Tickets & Seating Information

- The Centre has plenty of seating for family members, relatives, and friends to attend.
- Audience tickets for the Commencement are \$20 each.
- **Tickets are now available through <https://westvancouver.schoolcashonline.com/>**
- **Guest tickets will be handed out to students Friday, June 7th with their gowns**
- **Graduates do not require a ticket.**
- Every audience member must have a physical ticket to bring to The Centre.
- Audience seating is on a “**first come, first serve**” basis.
- Audience seats will NOT be reserved or assigned in advance.
- The Centre will be open at 12:30 PM for guests.
- Do not sit in the seats reserved for staff or scholarship presenters.
- Wheelchair access is available.

Photo Information

- Our professional photographer from Artona will take a picture of each Grad receiving their graduation certificates and awards. These photos will be available free of charge. As a courtesy to the audience and to ensure unrestricted viewing of the occasion, parents are requested to refrain from using film equipment during the ceremony.

All outstanding fees must be paid before Banquet tables can be reserved.

Graduation Banquet Dinner and Dance

Saturday, June 22nd, 2024

5pm – 10:30pm

Vancouver Convention Centre

West Ballroom C & D

1055 Canada Place, Vancouver

Banquet Ticket Sales

- Parents and friends are welcome to attend.
- **Tickets are \$135 for Graduates and \$155 per family member/guest.** These are 2 separate items on school cash online.
- Payment for tickets may only be made through School Cash Online and will be **available to purchase starting April 26th, 2024.** <http://westvancouver.schoolcashionline.com/>
- Seat selection will take place at lunch on May 23rd and 24th in the main office and will be on a “first come, first serve” basis.
- Several requirements must be fulfilled before tables can be reserved:
 - All of the graduate’s outstanding school fees on school cash online must be paid before any member of their party may book a table.
 - Student must submit a Grad “write-up” online by Thursday, May 16th.
- All tables seat 10 guests max, so you may need to sit with another party. Please plan accordingly.
- Please bring your completed **Table Request Form (avail. in office May 1st)** - all first and last names of guests are required as well as their relationship to the student (e.g., mom, aunt etc.).
- Please bring school cash online proof of purchase (receipt) to reserve seating/tables.
- Students wishing to sit together are encouraged to reserve seating together.
- Seats may not be reserved at tables for parties who have not purchased their tickets or who have outstanding school fees
- **School Cash Online receipts must be presented for booking tables.**

Pre-Dinner Reception

- A reception is scheduled from 5:00pm to 6:30pm.
- Soft drinks and appetizers will be served at this time.
- Grads and guests will have an opportunity to mix and mingle and take pictures.

The Banquet

- Doors will open at 5:00pm for the reception.
- The guest list will be checked at this time, no physical tickets required.
- It is a beautiful venue, so please arrive early if you wish to socialize and take photos before dinner.
- Guests should be seated by 6:30pm for the presentation of the Grads.
- Everyone must pass through security and check-in before entering the ballroom area.

Dinner

- Dinner is a buffet (Gluten free, Dairy Free, and Vegan options are available).
- After the head table, table order for the buffet will be selected at random by the Banquet Manager.

Dance

- Grads and guest are encouraged to stay for the post-dinner dance.
- A DJ will play dance music from approximately 8:30pm to 10:30pm.

Convention Centre Policy

- There are no “in and out” privileges for all guests.
- This is a school function; drugs and alcohol are prohibited.
- Students under the influence will be asked to leave.

Dress Code

- This is a formal event for the students please dress accordingly.
- Most parents & invited guests opt for business or semi-formal wear.
- If graduates wish to make a clothing change after the banquet, there are several washrooms available at the Convention Centre outside the venue. No backpacks or large bags permitted in the venue, please store in your vehicle.

After Grad

- Please be advised that **After Grad** is **NOT** a school-sponsored event.
- The school is not involved in organizing or chaperoning any “After Grad” activities.
- If there is an After Grad party, it will have been organized without school involvement.
- The school assumes no responsibility for After Grad events.
- Graduates are being asked to not spoil the banquet by leaving early for any After Grad parties.