

## Meeting Minutes for May 1, 2024

### Budgets

- Everything is so far on budget.

### Dry Grad

- We, from the executive, are really asking for parent volunteers or responsible family members for the Dry Grad from May 28- 30.
- We need approximately 7 volunteers in total. 3 Chaperones and 4 kitchen helpers.
- The hours are as such: Chaperones will leave approximately around 3pm on the 28th, same time as the school buses. They can take their own vehicles if need be. They will leave the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> and will be back in Merritt, late morning.
- The kitchen helpers will be required to be at the camp about an hour and a half before the buses get there to go through orientations and plans. They will stay behind for a little bit after the kids are done breakfast in the morning to clean up. Again, they can take their own vehicles and should be back in Merritt by lunch time.
- The only way we can keep the costs down for Dry Grad is if we have the parent volunteers for this event. Please have a look at your schedule and see if this is something you can fit into your week. The kids will be super grateful!!!
- Waiver forms will be going out this week for the extra activities that some of the kids have signed up for. Please sign and return it to Michelle as soon as possible. This ensures the kids' spots on the activities. [mrivette@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:mrivette@365.sd58.bc.ca)

### Parade

- Only 39 vehicles have registered for the parade to date. If you know you are taking a vehicle in the parade, but don't know what kind you are driving yet, please let Candace know asap so she can reserve a spot for you.  
[candicebateson@gmail.com](mailto:candicebateson@gmail.com)

### Dave Andersen, Vice Principal

If you have any questions about the events listed **BELOW**, please contact Crystal Ward-McGowan [cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca) or call 250-315-1141. All other events (dry grad, prom, vehicle parade etc.) please refer to the attachment for the grad executive contacts.

### Grad Fees

- Reminder that grad fees are \$200 (+ any outstanding fees) and are due **May 15th**. Fees can be paid by cash or e-transfer to [mssaccounts@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:mssaccounts@365.sd58.bc.ca). If using e-transfer, indicate

in the message box what the payment is for. **Note: Peer Supervisors are exempt from this deadline, however, supervisors that have been regularly absent from supervision may not get their fees paid in full. Please speak to Ms. Russell or Mr. Mattoo if you have any concerns.**

### **Mobility Issues: Graduation Farewell Ceremony**

- If someone in your reserved seating has mobility issues (each student will receive 4 reserved seating tickets for the floor), please inform Crystal Ward-McGowan [cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca) or call 250-315-1141 by **May 3rd** so she can plan accordingly.

### **Walking Parade/Graduation Farewell Ceremony**

- The ceremony is on Thursday, **June 22nd** at 7:00 pm at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena.
- Each graduate will receive 4 reserved seating tickets for the floor (random draw); **do not lose these tickets**, you will have to have your reserved seating ticket with you to be seated on the floor.
- The ceremony is open to the public, all other spectators will be seated in the public seating area.
- There will be a live stream of the event.
- Graduates will meet at MSS at 5:50 pm with grad attire on.
- Grads & MSS/CLC staff will walk (parade) to the arena at 6:20 pm, people can spectate from the streets along the route and celebrate the graduates.

### **Grad Packages**

- Grads (or parents/guardians) will be able to pick up their grad packages (cap, gown, accessories, tickets etc.) on **May 22nd** in the MSS Library Learning Commons from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. **All** items in the grad package are for the grads to keep (do **NOT** return gown etc. to school). **Grad fees (and outstanding fees) must be paid in full before receiving grad packages.**
- If unable to pick up on that day, please make arrangements with Crystal Ward-McGowan [cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca) or call 250-315-1141 to pick up; office hours are 8:15 am – 3:15 pm (lunch break 11:30-12:30).
- Do not lose anything from this package, there are no little to no replacements for items. **Especially the 2 prom tickets that are in the packages. These 2 tickets are for parents who are wanting to go into the Civic Centre to take pictures with their grad at the venue. Without these tickets, parents will not be able to enter the Civic Center.**

### **Grad Write-Ups and Yearbook Write-Ups**

- Grads have been sent info for grad write-ups and yearbook write-ups to their school email. Write-ups will be on the PowerPoint at the farewell ceremony and read when the student is called to the stage to receive their ceremony participation certificate.
- Grad write-ups are only to be 3-4 (short) sentences and are to be **emailed** (preferably as an attached Word doc) to Crystal [cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:cwardmcgowan@365.sd58.bc.ca).
- Yearbook write-ups are to be emailed to Allyson Paxton [apaxton@365.sd58.bc.ca](mailto:apaxton@365.sd58.bc.ca).
- Those grads that do not submit a grad write-up, will have a quote chosen by staff and read instead.
- Both write-ups are due **Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**.
- Parents/Guardians, please remind your graduate to check their **school** email for this information and to submit it ASAP.

### **MSS and CLC Grads Visit Elementary Schools**

- Is tentatively booked for **June 18<sup>th</sup>**.
- Grads will be bussed to district elementary schools and will walk the hallways of each school. It's a great event that elementary teachers and students enjoy celebrating their past students.
- Grads are expected to attend and be in their full attire (cap, gown, stole and tassel).
- The event usually begins at 9:00 am and ends at MSS at 11:00 am.
- At MSS, grads will be celebrated by walking the halls to their grad song and cheered on by all the school's students and staff.

### **Valedictorian**

- Information will be coming out soon for grads who would like to submit a speech to apply to be the Class of 2024's Valedictorian. In the past, speeches are submitted, a panel of staff members will review the speeches, choose 2-3 and then the graduates will have a chance to listen to the chosen speeches then vote for their valedictorian.

### **Grade 11 Parent Meeting**

- There will be a grade 11 parent meeting on **Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** to recruit volunteers to help with the graduation farewell ceremony, the vehicle parade, prom security etc. An email will be sent out to current grade 11's and their contacts; if you know of any grade 11 parents, please let them know of this very important meeting and encourage them to attend. Remind them to check their email for more information.

### **Grad Song**

- Grads have voted and have chosen "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield for their song when they visit the schools & "Good Ol' Days" by Macklemore for the ceremony.

**Dates:**

- **Grad Fees Due: May 15**
- **Grad and yearbook write-ups due: May 17**
- **Grad packages pick up: May 22**
- **Valedictorian selection: May 22 (to be confirmed)**
- **Dry Grad (for those that have paid to attend): May 28-30**
- **Final Grad Meeting: Monday, June 3**
- **Indigenous Grad: June 5**
- **Scholarship Ceremony: June 17 (invite only)**
- **Grads Visit Elementary Schools: June 18 (tentative date)**
- **Grad Rehearsal: June 19 (afternoon)**
- **Graduation Farewell Ceremony: June 20**
- **Prom & Vehicle Parade (not school events): June 22**

**Next Parent Grad Meeting:** Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm in the MSS Library Learning Commons.