

NEW WESTMINSTER SECONDARY SCHOOL
School Leaving Ceremonies 2017- STEPS TO A GREAT GRAD ☺

Dear Graduates of 2017:

Please read carefully through this notice so that you will be reminded of what we practised at the rehearsal. It is important that you know what to do prior to and during this important and formal evening – **Thursday June 29th, 2017.**

*****GRAD GOWN PICK UP:*****

Grad gowns will be distributed at Pearson office on **Monday June 26th at 11am** for grads with last names beginning with **(A-L)** and on **Tuesday June 27th at 11am** for grads with last names beginning with **(M-Z)**. It is important that all grads pick up their gowns on this day. Grads will then return their gowns on the evening of School Leaving Ceremonies immediately after the ceremony.

GRAD CEREMONY TICKETS

- You will pick up two tickets to the Grad Ceremony after the rehearsal. Additional tickets will be on sale beginning on Thursday June 8th in Pearson office. Limit of 4 per person during June 8 & 9th. Sale of additional 4 tickets will open up the Monday June 12th (if available).

BEFORE THE CEREMONY:

- By now you have paid your grad fee for the gown rental, the purchase of the cap & tassel, the class photo, and rental of the Queen's Park Arena. See the list posted outside the Counselling Office to ensure that your payment was received. **YOU MUST WEAR A CAP AND GOWN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CEREMONY.** You will be allowed to keep the cap.
- Family and friends should be informed that the doors to the **Queens Park Arena will open @ 5:30 PM. Prior to 5:30pm**, it would be a good time to have pictures taken with family and friends at home or in the Rose Garden or in the Park outside the Arena.
- Once you have arrived, find your name on one of the lists (alphabetical) posted outside as indicated in rehearsal. **You must be in line by 6:30 PM. DO NOT BE LATE!** You will be given a card with your name on it which you will hand to a staff member prior to crossing the stage. Wait in your row in order by last name for final instructions for the processional.

DURING THE CEREMONY:

- During the processional, you will be led into the Arena. **Simply follow the person in front of you.**
- When you get to your seat, **remain standing until "O Canada" has been sung.** You will be told to be seated at the appropriate time.
- Following this, we will have greetings from a School Board Trustee, the Superintendent and then the Principal's Remarks.
- Presentation of the **Class of 2017.**
- You will be directed by a staff person to stand when it is time for your row to make its way to the stage.
- Move to your **left** –in line order
- A staff member will give you your keepsake folder – **put the folder in your left hand** (you will be instructed how to do this).
- You will be cued on stage – Don't worry you will have help from a Staff member.
- When given the cue, proceed along the ramp as indicated by the staff member. Hand your name card to Mr. Battistin.
- Your name will be announced – you will then walk across the stage to shake hands with Mr. Tyler & Dignitaries.
- **Don't forget your loonie or toonie.** (You will find out what this is about at Grad Rehearsal)
- **Put the keepsake folder back into your left hand, face the audience and smile.**
- A staff member will help you off stage where your picture will be taken with Ms. Aoyama. You will then return to your seat. **Remember to keep quiet while going back to your seat out of respect for your peers who are still being announced!**

DURING THE CEREMONY (Continued):

- When all grads have been announced, it is time for the Valedictory speech by Luigi Alde.
- Closing remarks will be **made by an administrator**.
- Before the recessional, the Grad 2017 class will be acknowledged and grads will throw their caps in the air.

“At this time would the graduates please stand, turn and face the audience. We present to you, New Westminster Secondary School’s Class of 2017. »

- **Recessional-** The ceremony is not over until grads file out during the recessional. You exit the stage in reverse order of the processional. All grads will be led out of the Arena.
- **RETURN YOUR GOWN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY (where you lined up for the processional) - we will have several volunteers to help you.**
- **The buses will load for students to attend the DRY GRAD PARTY event!!**

A FEW OTHER NOTES:

- If you received a scholarship or bursary please write and send your letter of thanks immediately. **DO NOT FORGET!**
- Arrange for family members or non-graduating friends to take care of personal belongings such as purses and other valuables. We will not be responsible for these items.
- We ask that cell phones be turned off during the ceremonies.
- You are encouraged to dress semi-formally under the gowns and wear appropriate footwear. Please wear shoes, not flip-flops. Wear shoes that you can walk in across the stage – so that you don’t trip!
- Please remind friends and family to remain seated during the ceremonies in consideration of others.



*Please see Mr. Battistin to
give him the correct
pronunciation of your name!*

**YOU CAN FEEL VERY PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!
HAVE A WONDERFUL GRAD!**

Scholarship/Bursary/Awards

Have you accepted a scholarship/bursary from a donor/source outside of NWSS (i.e. SFU, UBC, etc.)? If so, please tell us about it. Please include the name of the scholarship/bursary and the amount. Please submit this information to the Chris Walton: cwalton@sd40.bc.ca by Friday, June 23rd. This will be included in the grad program. Any information provided after this date will not be included in the grad program.

Any Questions? Please see Ms. Mast, Ms. Aoyama or Ms. McGinley.