



April 18, 2023

Dear Grads/Parent/Guardian,

The Grad Banquet, Red Carpet, Dry Grad and Valedictory are approaching soon! We can feel a growing level of excitement at school amongst the grads and I'm sure you are experiencing a similar feeling at home.

In order to make the Grad Events go smoothly, please ensure that you read the information below very closely and review it with your Grad. We hosted a flex block and communicated this to those that attended.

Student Expectations

Student participation in this event is a privilege and relies heavily on the goodwill of staff and parent volunteers, who give their time to supervise student activities. It is important that students realize the voluntary nature of these activities and respect the following conditions and behavioral expectations.

- Red Carpet, Grad Banquet and Valedictory are school events and all behavioural expectations regularly held by Seaquam Secondary School and the Delta School District will apply.
- This includes, but is not limited to, zero tolerance for the possession of alcohol/drugs and attending under the influence of alcohol/drugs.
- Smoking, including vaping, will not be permitted on school grounds or at anytime on the property at these events.
- Students in violation of the District Code of Conduct risk suspension from school and may be denied the privilege of attending the events in June.

As such, students should expect to be screened by school staff and security. This may include the checking of bags/purses, jackets and pockets for any prohibited items.

Banquet Ticket Sales and Table Signup

Grads will need to make sure that they don't owe any fees before they are able to buy a ticket. Banquet tickets will go on sale starting on April 25. There will be an "Early Bird" price of \$180 from April 25-27. Tickets need to be purchased on Parent Connect (Fees tab) or at the office. The regular price of \$190 will start on April 28 and end on May 18. Grads will be able to pick their dining table at the Banquet once they have purchased a ticket. On Friday, April 28, all those that got an Early Bird tickets can go see Ms. Serres in room 2133 and select their table. Every Friday after that, Grads who have subsequently purchased Banquet Tickets will be able to select a table. One thing to remind Grads is that the table they select corresponds to the bus number they will be assigned. For the greatest choice, seating and riding the bus with your friends it is important to buy early and get all of your friends to buy at the same time. There will no reservations held for table seating.

Dry Grad Clothing Drop Off

Grads will bring a change of clothes and footwear for Dry Grad with them to the Banquet. The clothes and footwear should be contained in ONE bag. The bag must be well labeled. Once the Banquet is over, Grads will

be escorted to change rooms to get changed. The order will be done based on which bus students will be on. Please make sure you bring garment bags for your formal wear.

Red Carpet Walk

Grads will have the opportunity to participate in the Red Carpet Walk on Saturday, June 10 at Seaquam. This is being run in conjunction between the school and the Dry Grad committee. Seaquam Grads are the only people who can walk the red carpet. They will be given a specific time to arrive with the same people sitting at their banquet table. The red carpet walk is open to all families members and friends to attend. It will start around 1pm. Students will be staggered arrival times to Seaquam.

Transportation to and from the Grad Banquet

All Grads attending the Banquet will be transported from Seaquam to the Wall Centre via luxury coach buses. Buses will be organized by the table setting that students have selected.

All Grads going to Dry Grad will be transported to the Dry Grad at North Delta Rec centre. Those not attending Dry Grad will need to be picked up by family at the Banquet location, Wall Centre on Burrard Street in Vancouver.

Grad Banquet

All students will be transported from Seaquam via luxury coach bus to the Grad Banquet at the Wall Centre, downtown Vancouver. Along the way to the Banquet the buses will stop for Grads to have an opportunity to get pictures taken with each other. We have yet to determine where we will stop as it may be weather dependent. At the Banquet, students will go through a security check before they enter the banquet hall. At the Banquet there will be unlimited soft drinks, an amazing buffet and dancing. There are no in-and-out privileges. We ask that Families no attend this event.

Dry Grad

This is an event put on by the Dry Grad 2023 committee. The cost of tickets is \$80 and these are on sale in the cafeteria every Wednesday at lunch. Please bring cash or cheques. Dry Grad is the “after the Banquet” event. It is a great deal of fun and will last into the early morning of June 11. This is a Parent run event. Students will be transported to Dry Grad from the Banquet. See the end of the newsletter for more information from the committee.

Valedictorian

Each year the Grad class picks a Valedictorian. This is someone who gives a speech at the Valedictory event in front of Grads and families. This is someone who will speak for your whole Grad class. An application form will be sent to Grads the last week of April. The application form contains more details. Applicants need teacher sponsors and there is a vetting process before Grads vote on whom they want to be valedictorian.

Valedictory

Valedictory is sometimes called the “walk across the stage” ceremony. This is the final event of the Grade 12 year. Grads will dress up in a cap and gown and cross the stage to receive your Seaquam certificate. The event is being held at South Delta Baptist church on June 23. Due to limited seating, each Grad will automatically receive 2 tickets for the event. We realize that families might need some extra tickets and we will have a process for families to apply for more tickets once we have things all set. (The max will be 2 additional tickets if we have them.) There will be more information in June about this. As part of the \$45 Grad fee each Grad will receive a Cap and Gown that will be their own for ever more.

Grads, when you walk across the stage there will be a comment said about you. Each Grad will write their own comment. There will be a google doc that will come out in May for you to submit your comments. This will be edited by staff for appropriateness.

Financial need

Those students and families who are experiencing financial need can make a request to Mr. Robinson, Principal, and we will see how Seaquam can help.

Thank you Parents

I would again like to thank the Seaquam Dry Grad committee for organizing Dry Grad and the Red Carpet event. Parents, I would also like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in ensuring that your child enjoys a safe and memorable 'grad' experience.

If you have any questions please email me or give me a call.

Sincerely,

Mr. M. Robinson
Principal

Dry Grad

It is a fully supervised, substance free, fun event that takes place following the Grad Banquet on Saturday, June 10th at the North Delta Rec Centre. It runs overnight from approx. 10:30pm until 4am. The Grads are transported directly by bus from the Grad Banquet at the Wall Centre to the Dry Grad.

Once the Grads arrive at the Rec Centre, ALL items, except phones, will be coat checked. This includes all bags, coats, purses. Once inside, there will be no in and out privileges. If Grads wish to leave early, they may, but will not be allowed back in. Please note that Grads must be in attendance at the end of the evening to claim prizes. We ask all parents/guardians to come at 4am for pickup. Grads will only be released once a parent or guardian arrives.

There will be many activities including **Games/Inflatables, Casino games, Oxygen Bar, photo booth, money booth, a photographer on site, roaming entertainment, and a show at the end of the night.** There will be lots of food and drink. **AND over \$4000 in prizes that can be won.**

Tickets for Dry Grad are \$80 – Last day to purchase is May 12th

Tickets can be purchased IN PERSON by CASH/CHEQUE every WEDNESDAY in the School Cafeteria at Lunch. You can also purchase through E-transfer. Please send an E-transfer to seaquamdrygrad2023@gmail.com

ALSO! Our annual & favourite May 4-in-1 fundraiser is coming up on May 13th! This will include a pancake breakfast for the community, car wash, flower/herb baskets, recycling drop off, and Pork Mafia food truck. Please see our website for ALL the details!

We Need Grad Volunteers for May 4 in 1! Ask your kids if they can help out!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11-IEtS1df3k3pjDqWbkBYRmUNmFTYdoSVi-OV5iGUiY/edit#gid=0>

Any questions, please visit our website <https://sites.google.com/view/seaquamdrygrad2023/home>
Or email us at seaquamdrygrad2023@gmail.com