



GRADUATION PROTOCOLS – SD 58

Graduation marks a significant transition in a young person's life, and that it also represents the culmination of over a decade of work and effort to achieve prescribed goals and outcomes and completion of the Ministry of Education Grad Program either through Adult Dogwood, Dogwood, or Evergreen pathways. In an effort to recognize this achievement and maintain reasonable and consistent expectations, the School District 58 has the following expectations and guidelines:

Definition of ‘Graduation’

- 'Graduation' shall exclusively describe the process of completing and leaving grade twelve; other terms such as 'celebration', 'completion', or 'transition' may be used to mark other significant milestones such as Kindergarten, Grade Seven, or middle years.
- The terms ‘Commencement’, 'Graduation Ceremony' or 'Graduation Exercise' describe the event in which students are recognized for completing their grade twelve year. This is separate from other events such as dinners, dances, or socials, Dry grad events, which are generally not part of the school's formal Grad Program.

Eligibility for ‘Graduation’

- All students will be passing all subjects effective June 1st to be considered for participation in their graduation ceremony.
- All students on a ‘Dogwood’ diploma program are expected to have all course work at least 90% completed by June 1st of their graduation year.
- A student with a course or courses with less than this amount completed will not participate in graduation ceremonies with their peers.
- The Principal will make the final determination as to whether or not this has been accomplished.
- Parents of students with significant graduation complications or deficits will be notified in writing once before December break, once after the end of first semester and again before the end of May.
- Students will be notified of all the steps to ‘Graduation’ through: an assembly during each of their Grade 10, Grade 11, and Grade 12 years, mailed home, posted in homerooms, and on the school website.
- Students on an 'Evergreen' or school completion program will be expected to complete their programming in a similar fashion to dogwood students.
- No student shall be excluded from graduation exercises because of the inability to pay fees.
- No student shall participate in more than one graduation ceremony.

Ceremony

- Graduation Ceremonies shall take place in the last two weeks of June.
- While students and parents will have considerable input into the scope and nature of the ceremony, the ceremony itself is a school function and as such is under the auspices of the Principal and her/his designate.
- Graduation Exercise Ceremonies will occur at the school, arena, civic centre, and/or another property in an emergency depending on which community or school your student attends.
- Graduation Exercises, and any other ceremony or celebration that occurs with the sanction of the school or District shall follow all policies and expectations of the Board and the school.