



[https://
gss.sd42.
ca/](https://gss.sd42.ca/)

June Events

June 1 Collab Day adjusted Bell
Schedule

June 10 Grad Ceremony
- Alpha Groups

June 14 - 23 /Gr 10 , 11 Literacy
and Numeracy Exams for Some
Classes.

June 24 Last Day for Students
June 25 I Day - Student by
invitation to complete course work

June 28 E Reports Issued
June 28 - 30 Summer office hours

July 1 Canada Day - School Closed
July 2, 5-9 Summer office hours

Report Cards:

Report cards will be electronically issued June 28th 2021. Please be sure to **download** the report card in its digital format from the My Class System, which will be available for 30 days.

How to access a report card can be found online at:

[https://
gss.sd42.libguides.com/
c.php?
g=708495&p=5046371](https://gss.sd42.libguides.com/c.php?g=708495&p=5046371)

Parent

Communication:

Maintaining contact with parents and students is more important than ever.

The daily Gazette is the best source. This is posted to the school website.

We work to ensure the primary information for the school district and the Province is posted to the GSS Main Page.

The Parent Portal is essential. Please ensure that messages from the portal do not move to your email spam folder.

Take Care
Be Safe
Be in contact as necessary.

Respectfully,

Ian Liversidge, Principal

ian_liversidge@sd42.ca

About Grad, Grad Events and Grade 12

Please see page 2 for Grade 12 focused info.

In summary, we are following the Provincial Health regulations.

June 10 we will do a student only School Leaving Event. This will be recorded and edited and distributed to families for later viewing.



GSS Newsletter

June 2021



Grad 2021 Updated

Over the past two weeks the Provincial Health Authority in connection with Fraser Health have worked to develop a set of criteria for 2021 Grad Ceremonies and events. In recent days a portal message from Superintendent Harry Dhillon has been sent out to outline some of these limitations.

We have developed a set of plans that support both the graduation formality and the expectations of the Provincial Health Authority. Nothing is more important than the health of those we love, however, graduation still matters.

School Leaving Ceremony: We will host a **student only** school leaving ceremony on June 10th in the afternoon.

Student Grouping for the event are as follows:

A - G- 12:00

H - N - 1:30

P - Z - 3:00 PM

Students are asked to be in the gym with grad "gown/ hood" 15 min prior to their posted time. Late comers may not be accommodated.

Please respect our needs to have no spectators overseeing the ceremony. The complete ceremony will be edited and released on a secure district server similar to a YouTube video. The posted ceremony will include speeches such as the valedictorian address and will be well worth watching. The weblink will be released via email in a Parent Portal message, approximately June 19th, 2021.

It is important that graduates click on the following link to answer the questions as this will be used to create their introduction which will be read as they walk across the stage <https://forms.office.com/r/b9WsPBsckD> . Your information should include any scholarship or bursary you have received as we are not necessarily contacted by the awarding institution.

I hope that the plans above give some opportunities for a safe and meaningful celebration. Please continue to monitor the school website, the Grad 2021 page, and Parent Portal for ongoing information.

Please contact me, ian_liversidge@sd42.ca directly, in email, if you have any questions.

Year End 2021

In recent weeks the school district has changed dates for the 2021 year ends. Please be sure to follow the new adjusted year end. Updated Info can be found at: <https://www.sd42.ca/> Last Day for Students in Thursday June 24th 2021.

Start up 2021 - 2022 School Calendar - Proposal

The 2021 - 2022 school year calendar has been released. This is the basic school calendar, GSS will add school based additions such as Collaboration days, report card distribution dates and Student Led Conferences. We hope that 2021 - 2022 makes a return to the "normal markers" in a school year. The SD calendar is posted to: <https://www.sd42.ca/announcement/>





GSS Yearbooks Remain for Sale

We hope you are all keeping well in these trying times. We are working on having Yearbook completed on time. While we have sold many yearbooks, we still have about 50 books left to sell. They are sold on a first come, first serve basis. You can order them from the Parent Portal by completing the online form. This year's Yearbook more so than any other years, will be one that you truly want to have for your student or Grad.



IB DP 5 Year Review

Over the course of 2021 - 2022 Garibaldi Secondary has been completing a significant review of the IB - Diploma Program. While this review is a "self reflective" process we have recognized the strength in our program.

We have developed an action plan that will allow us to continue our positive growth as a professional community, and as a school staff that supports a wide range of students.

Again, this year we anticipate having graduates who school very highly and accept significant long term educational opportunities. We are proud of our program, recognize the pattern of positive growth, and are thankful for the leadership of our school staff.

Staff Changes for 2021 - 2022

Every year there are changes in the school community. In the coming year we will have a number of staff changes. At this time there will be changes in the school administration, as Mr. Levesque, after 7 years at GSS, will move to THSS, and Mr. Sharpe, after 2 years will move to PMSS.

The past 2 years have marked a significant transition in the GSS community. We have returned to a place of growth. I am thankful for the guidance and organization both Mr. Levesque and Mr. Sharpe have brought in the time of change. For Sept. 2021 I will be joined by Mr. Chow from THSS and Mrs. Allen from SRT. Both vice principals with background and experience which will be welcome additions.

At this time Mr. Hennig has shared plans of a move to north / central BC. Mrs. Harmon, and Mrs. Kuszak will be returning from maternity leaves.

In the coming weeks I expect there will be other changes to the school community. There will be retirements, transitions to other schools, and positions. I wish every member of the GSS family success and good health wherever their journey.

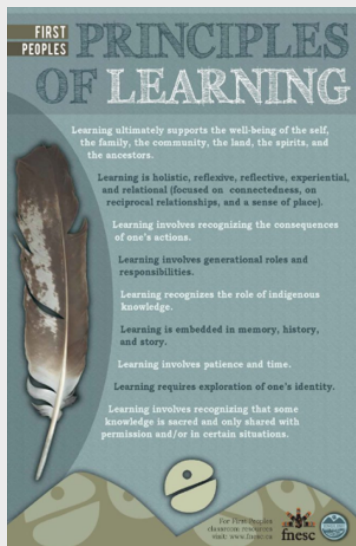


Mental Health Resources:

310 Mental Health Support -
24/7 emotional support):
[https://pathwaysbc.ca/
programs/42](https://pathwaysbc.ca/programs/42)

BC Health Link:
[https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/
mental-health-substance-use/
resources](https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/mental-health-substance-use/resources)





First Peoples Principles of Learning

There are 9 First People Principles of Learning. Each is unique and reflective of positive values we look to bring to our school community:

Learning involves generational roles and responsibilities

This principle reflects the understanding that teaching and learning is the responsibility of all members of a community. The responsibility for teaching *belongs to everyone* in the community. As people develop their skills and knowledge in particular areas, it is expected that they will in turn teach others. This is seen as a responsibility that ultimately strengthens communities. Conversely, the responsibility for learning also lies with the learner. It is the responsibility of the learner to determine what he or she is supposed to learn from any given situation. For example, a learner may be told a story that is intended to help the learner learn something rather than being explicitly told what the lesson is. The learner must figure that out for him or herself. This process allows learners to develop understandings that are applicable to them personally, and that they see as relevant for a specific time and place. It also promotes personal responsibility for learning.



MYP Grade 8 - 10 Pathway to Approval

Garibaldi has been working with an IB MYP consultant (Lisa Nicholson) for 3 years to prepare for our application for authorization. Lisa is a highly experienced senior IB consultant and is on the writing team for many MYP primary source documents, we were privileged to have such a strong consultant with a vast knowledge of all things MYP to work with during this process.

Lisa provided detailed feedback on many aspects of the GSS program. Lisa was impressed with the teaching practices and learning experiences outlined in these unit plans and commented on the work, passion and dedication that GSS teachers exhibit.

Our consultation time with Lisa culminated with a two day virtual visit on April 22nd and 23rd. During these two days, Lisa met with every department and our administration team. She completed a review of the evidence we compiled in demonstrating our efforts in meeting all the Standards and Practices (70) for MYP.

In summary, Lisa approved our readiness for submitting our application for authorization (Fall 2021) which will be followed by a site visit for authorization (Spring 2022). After meeting with all departments over the course of the two days, Lisa's final report showed that she was **very impressed with our teaching staff, specifically our reflective skills, our growth mindset and our thoughtful and insightful questions.**

Thanks need to be shared with our staff and district leadership that has supported release time to complete the remaining unit plans and interdisciplinary units for the Spring Authorization visit.





