

GRADUATION 2025

Maple Ridge Secondary School Outreach Alternate Secondary School

MONTHS AT A GLANCE

JANUARY

Students self report height measurement in cm
\$50 non-refundable grad fee due
Early admission to many post-secondary institutions closes
District Scholarship “How to” apply seminar

MARCH

Deadline for District Scholarship packages

APRIL

Banquet & dance ticket sales (\$125 cash or cheque, not on the Parent Portal)
Ceremony ticket sales begin - limit 4 (begin April28)

MAY

Banquet & dance guest ticket sales continue
Dry Grad ticket sales begin
Deadline for Banquet & dance ticket sales
Additional Ceremony tickets if available

JUNE

Unlimited Ceremony tickets if available
MANDATORY Grad Rehearsal @ MRSS
Graduation Ceremony
Banquet and Dance
Dry Graduation

For exact dates visit:

<https://wordpress1.blob.core.windows.net/mrss/2024/09/>

CAREER COUNSELLING AND SCHOLARSHIP ADVISING

Available in the Career Centre Monday and Thursday, Mrs. Domitruk will be happy to share her career counselling and scholarship expertise and knowledge with you. Check the webpage for more info: <https://mrsscareercentre.wordpress.com/> or Instagram at mrss.careercentre

SAVE THE DATE

GRADUATION CEREMONY

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

Chandos Pattison Auditorium
(10238 168 Street, Surrey)
Grads arrive by 4:15
Group Photo @ 4:45
Doors Open for Seating 4:45-5:45pm
Ceremony begins @ 6pm

BANQUET & DANCE

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Outside photos 4:00-5:00pm
Doors Open 5:00pm
Banquet & Dance 6:00pm - 10:30pm
Swaneseet Resort & Country Club
(16651 Rannie Road, Pitt Meadows)

DRY GRAD CELEBRATION

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

JUNE 7 & 8

Doors Open 11:30pm-12:30am
Maple Ridge Secondary School





GRADUATION REHEARSAL WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

MRSS has a long tradition of exceptional formal graduation ceremonies and we want to make sure grads and families know what to expect on this auspicious day.

The rehearsal is mandatory - all grads must be in attendance so plan ahead! The rehearsal starts after school in the main gym at 3pm sharp and lasts for about 90 minutes.

Students will receive their cap and gown following the rehearsal - it is theirs to keep. Please make sure the gown is ironed before the ceremony. Note: we will not have extra caps, grad tassels, stoles, or gowns so take care not to lose anything. Grads arrive at the ceremony in their cap and gown.

GRADUATION CEREMONY ATTIRE

Grads will be wearing a traditional cap and gown for the ceremony. There is no need to purchase a new or expensive outfit, but please dress for the occasion.

Their shoes will be visible to the audience as they cross the stage, so appropriate shoes are recommended. Their cap and gown will be black with a red stole. The gown, stole and cap are theirs to keep. Take all pictures you want before the ceremony begins.

We suggest a dress shirt with a collar and tie, a nice top or dress (many students choose a neckline that is not visible above the gown, so the colour is not important), black or grey pants or a kneelength skirt, dress or capris are suggested. Suit jackets aren't necessary; it gets quite hot on stage under the lights.

GRADUATION CEREMONY FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025

Initially we limit each graduate to 4 tickets for their guests from April 28-May 23, (grads do not need a ticket for themselves). Tickets are \$5 each.

If available, up to 4 additional tickets can be purchased from May 26-30 and unlimited numbers can be purchased from June 2-6. Once we sell out, we cannot provide additional tickets.

On the day of the ceremony, grads need to arrive at Chandos Pattison Auditorium (located at Pacific Academy) by 4:15pm to prepare for a group photo that takes place at 4:45pm. Grads will arrive wearing their cap, stole, and gown.

If you have a special request for wheelchair seating or for someone with mobility challenges, please contact Mark Beale at: mark_beale@sd42.ca

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

All secondary schools in School District 42 adhere to a practice of allowing students to participate in the graduation ceremony under the following conditions:

- 1) Students must be eligible to graduate by meeting the Ministry of Education graduation criteria. In the event a student is not on a graduation pathway, the Administration will make a decision by the end of May whether the student will be permitted to participate. To avoid heartbreaks, students should be well above 50%.
- 2) Students are in "good standing" - students under suspension are not permitted to participate graduation events.
- 3) Parents of a student in danger of losing the privilege of participating in the graduation ceremony will be informed.



BANQUET & DANCE SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025

The banquet and dance will be held for our graduates and approved guests only. Parents do not attend.

Swan-E-Set is a wonderful venue with a very scenic backdrop. Parents are welcome to attend outside for photos from 4:00-5:00pm.

Parents are reminded:

- the lounge in the clubhouse is off limits to grads and guests at all times
- limo drivers must drop off and pick up quickly to prevent backlogs
- grads and their guests must stay off the fairways at all times
- no confetti is allowed.

GUESTS AT THE BANQUET, DANCE, AND DRY GRAD

Grads may wish to bring a guest to our banquet, dance and/or dry grad (providing we have availability). All guests must be pre-approved by the school administration. Grads will complete a Guest Form, available from Mr. Beale, and submit this to the school office for approval. This process occurs following Spring Break. Tickets cannot be purchased until the form has been approved. Guests must be in “good standing” with their current school, guests older than 19 years old are typically not approved.

DRY GRADUATION CELEBRATION SATURDAY & SUNDAY JUNE 7 & 8, 2025

This all-inclusive celebration takes place at MRSS after conclusion of the Banquet and Dance. Doors open 11:30pm-12:30am.

This ticket covers the cost of everything including all food, candy and beverages as well as all the games and entertainment which typically include: giant hamster ball race, bungee run, top shot hockey, airbrush tattoo parlour, jumbo twister, electronic high strike, jumbo chess and checkers, jumbo jenga, photo booth, mechanical bull, casino, a magician & hypnotist and prizes galore!

Nearly all of our graduates and their guests attend the Dry Grad - it's truly outstanding, good, clean fun and everyone is safe!

The event finishes at approximately 4:00am. Grads should arrange a safe ride home as they will be tired from a long day of celebration.

GRAD TRIPS – A WARNING FOR PARENTS

Parents may have heard about a grad trip. These are NOT a school-sanctioned event. MRSS does not organize grad trips – ever!

PARENT VOLUNTEERS ARE KEY TO A GREAT DRY GRAD!

MRSS forms a Dry Grad Parent Committee every year to assist in planning our Dry Grad celebration. Parents are essential for the event and for the fundraising that occurs prior to the event. Our Dry Grad Coordinator, Trevor Randle, chairs the committee. Please contact Trevor_randle@sd42.ca if you'd like to become part of the committee or if you'd like to volunteer for a 'job' at the celebration.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions and additional information contact:

Graduation Ceremony, Caps & Gowns, Grad Clothing Sales, Banquet & Dance, Grad Fees
Mark Beale (Graduation Coordinator)
mark_beale@sd42.ca

Dry Grad & Dry Grad Parent Committee
Trevor Randle (Dry Grad Coordinator)
trevor_randle@sd42.ca

Grad Criteria
Grant Frend, Principal
Grant_Frend@sd42.ca

Graduation Requirements
Sacha Page, Grade 12 Counsellor
sacha_page@sd42.ca

F.A.Q. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if my student only wants to attend one event?

Students are welcome to choose to attend any events they wish, however, we have found that most students who start the year with the expectation of attending only the ceremony or banquet and dance often change their mind over the course of the school year.

We have siblings in the grad class. Is there a fee break?

There is no reduced fee for siblings as cost are per person.

Is carpooling necessary?

There is plenty of parking for everyone but it does get very busy. Parking attendants will be onsite to help direct the flow of parking and to keep things moving.

While the grads need to be at the venue by 4:15, and entrance for guests does not begin until 4:45, we recommend that families plan to stay at the venue rather than leave and come back. Note that while the venue isn't far away, travelling to it will be during rush hour so dropping off, leaving, and returning is not recommended.

My student is at risk of not graduating. What happens?

Parents of students at risk of not graduating will receive a letter from the principal and the Grade 12 counsellor.

Non-grads in good standing are still welcome to attend the banquet & dance and the dry grad.

Are refunds available?

Refunds can be issued for ceremony and dry grad tickets, however, the \$50 grad fee is non-refundable. Note that refunds will be not available for the banquet & dance should the decision to not attend is made after the final numbers are set, as we have committed costs and confirmed numbers.

GRAD COMMUNICATIONS

We work hard to communicate well with grads and families. This can be challenging as some of our students are attending alternate campuses to support their trade programs. It is important that grads are connected to the Microsoft Teams group and periodically check the Graduation 2025 page of our website at <https://secondary.sd42.ca/mrss/graduation-e/>, and for parents to watch for messages on the Parent Portal and their email. We also broadcast important information, events, and deadlines to students in our morning announcements and then post them on the home page of our website.

SCHOLARSHIP, BURSARY & AWARD INFORMATION

Over the course of the school year there are many scholarships, bursaries and awards that are available. We keep students informed through three different mechanisms: Career Life Connections class, a Scholarship bulletin board, the Career Centre website and the MRSS Career Centre.

Additional primary sources of information are:
<http://www.sd42.ca/student-financial-awards> (published online mid-January)

Suggested sites to visit include:
<https://scholartree.ca/>
www.scholarshipscanada.com
www.studentawards.com
<https://yconic.com/>

University Entrance Scholarships:
Many post-secondary institutions offer financial incentives in the form of monetary awards towards tuition at their institution. Students should check their websites for more information.

