May 21st, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of Graduates of 2021

We are very excited to share with you the details about our plan for Commencement and want to congratulate all our Grads. Our event will be a walk-through event on Thursday, June 10th and Friday, June 11th. Students will be invited to book a time (see the link below – it will be open at noon on Wednesday, May 26th) and will be allowed to have four guests attend with them. These guests should be members of the students' household(s) or someone who lives on their own, but regularly interacts with the occupants of the household(s). We have hired a professional video production company who will tape all of the grads as they walk the stage and create a video that can be shared with family and friends. We will also be livestreaming the ceremony and will provide the link for this soon. To maintain the Provincial Health Standards, Grads and their guests will have to stay together for the walk-through. Once students and their guests have completed the walk-through, they will be expected to promptly leave the school and parking lot – parking and school capacity will be required for the next Commencement sessions.

Students will receive their cap and gowns for Commencement in their morning homeroom classes. If your Grad does not have a morning class, we will reach out to them directly to arrange a pick-up time. Caps and gowns will only be given to students who have paid their Grad Fee. Grad fees are \$50 and can be paid online (https://surreyschools.schoolcashonline.com/) or you can pay with cash or cheque in the office (with Ms. Nett, our Head Secretary).

Grads will receive parking information, a school map, and Commencement walkthrough instructions when they receive their caps and gowns. There will be four parking areas numbered 1 to 4 - this will be for your assigned parking lot for Commencement. We ask Grads and guests to arrive in one vehicle and Grads to be already wearing their caps and gowns. You will park in your assigned lot and then find your assigned position to stand together outside of the large gym. Please maintain all social distancing protocols as you arrive at the school. Please do not arrive more than 10 minutes before your ceremony.

Grads and guests will enter the school together. You will walk in a group through the Plaza, where the Grads will stop to get their Artona Grad photo. Speeches will be pre-recorded and played on screens around the Plaza and in the hallway leading to the gym. We will also send a link to these speeches, so you can watch them before or after you attend Commencement. Grads and their guests will enter the gym one group at a time. The Grad will line up by the stage and the guests will head to the area in front of the stage, so they can watch and take photos. As the MC calls the Grad's name, they will walk the stage and nod to Mr. Hignell. They will pause on the X on the floor for photos. When the Grad has crossed the stage, they will reunite with guest and all will be asked to leave the gym. Students have written their own Commencement statements, but you should know they will also be awarded with their district and school scholarships, athletic awards and school service awards while they walk the stage.

When the ceremony is over, we will ask you to leave out the back door of the gym and into the parking lot. Please leave the school immediately, so that the next group of guests can park in your spot.

Please be aware: Participation in our Commencement implies that you and your parents/guardians are accepting that you will be part of the video. This video will be accessed by all graduating students, their parents, and families. If you are not agreeing to this media consent, we will need to present you with your diploma at another time.

Our Commencement times will be every 10 minutes from 2:00pm to 8:30pm on Thursday, June 10th and 2:00pm to 8:00pm on Friday, June 11th. Four groups will be able to book each 10-minute time slot. The link will be open at 12pm on Wednesday, May 26th. Taking the time to register on the School Appointments website before Wednesday would be recommended.

https://fleetwood.schoolappointments.com/admin/

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you for your special Commencement ceremony in June!

Kasha Duff, Nik Kirincic, and Ken Hignell Administration at Fleetwood Park Secondary