



EARL MARRIOTT Grad Newsletter February 2019

Grad Contacts:

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Expectations to Graduate

Congratulations for reaching the final stages of high school life! Grade 12 is a time of significant decision-making, learning, and celebration.

We look forward to your final year at EMS and know that it will be exciting and memorable. Like every graduation class, I challenge you to demonstrate leadership with the rest of the student body at the school. Your leadership and citizenship will help define the culture of our school community.

We also continue to challenge all students to consistently strive to be their best. In order to participate in the Graduation activities, EMS Grads must be in a position to pass their courses and meet Ministry of Education Graduation requirements by the end of the school year. Student attendance and behavior throughout the year is also taken into consideration. **It is our expectation that all student debts, including the \$50 grad fee (covering the cost of venue rental, gowns and grad composite photos) be paid.** We expect senior students to demonstrate leadership and good judgment in the classroom, hallways, and at school sponsored events.

The graduation events during this upcoming year are intended to build community among the members of the **Class of 2019** and to contribute to the development of positive school culture and traditions. It is very important that we remind parents and grads that **all events organized and sponsored by the school must be alcohol and drug free.** Everyone should understand that this is for the safety of students. Students must behave appropriately and act with good judgment at all times.

All students participating in grad events should be aware of the consequences if they are involved with drugs or alcohol. They face suspension from school and put their participation in future grad events, including the Dinner/Dance, in jeopardy. This has significant implications for students, families, and other members of the grad class. It is our hope that students, fully aware of the consequences and the reasons behind school policies, will make good choices.

In the past, some members of Earl Marriott Graduation classes have planned their own “Grad Activities”. Some activities have been unsafe, have directly interfered with learning, and have tarnished the reputation of our graduating class and school. The school does ***not*** sanction these activities. Such activities have included:

- Wearing inappropriate “Welcome Grade 8s” t-shirts
- Milk Drinking/Vomiting Contest
- Grad Class Ski/Snowboarding trips to any mountain (S-TRIP)
- Grad Class trips out of country, i.e. Mexico, Hawaii (S-TRIP)
- Grad Class camping in Sept/May
- Grad Class “run-through/kidnapping”.

We discourage students from participating in these activities and will not permit their organization within the school.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the school’s administration. In addition, please refer to the website www.surreyschools.ca/schools/earlmarriott and our twitter feed @EarlMarriottSec or @GradEMS for information on upcoming events. Don’t forget to download the “Mari-Time” app for your phone and subscribe to the “Grade 12” class to get all the latest notifications regarding grad and other school events.

Lastly, make sure your graduation plans include our EMS Dry Grad celebration. “Dry Grad” is a very positive, fun and safe celebration for our graduating students and takes place after the Dinner-Dance. It is highly supported by the school and a wonderful way for students to end the year.

C. Davies, Principal



Grad 2018-2019 Important Dates

September 28, 2018	Seattle Mariners Game
October 23, 2018	Post Secondary Night
October 24, 2018	UBC Post-Secondary Night
October 25, 2018	Grad Boat Cruise (Reserve online)
November 1, 2018	Parent Teacher Night
November 22, 2018	First Report Card
November 22, 2018	Grad Fashion Show
November 30, 2018	Grad Transition Plans Due (Edmodo)
December 5-7, 2018	Grad Transitions Interview Extravaganza
December 10-17, 2018	Grad Photos (book online: artonagroup.com)
January 24-25, 2019	Provincial Exams
January 25, 2019	Grad Gown form and Comments due
February 7, 2019	Final Report Card: Semester 1
February 27, 2019	Grad Pasta Night
March 15, 2019	Valedictorian Applications due
April 25, 2019	First Report Card: Semester 2
May 11, 2019	Plant, Manure, Trunk Sale
May 15, 2019	Duke of Earl
May 21, 2019	Mandatory Commencement Rehearsal (Blocks D & A)
May 22, 2019	Commencement (Chandos Pattison Auditorium)
June 22-23, 2019	Family Reception/Grad Banquet Dry Grad
June 24-26, 2019	Provincial Exams



Grad photos

Artona has completed all photo sessions at Earl Marriott. Any information you require can be found at www.artona.com, under Earl Marriott Secondary. Artona will be taking a group photo at our Dinner/Dance in June.

Graduation Transitions 12: Now Overdue (A Graduation Requirement)

Grad Transitions 12 is a required course for graduation. The purpose of this course is to encourage students to reflect on their interests and the skills and the knowledge they have acquired during their high school experience, and then to make some concrete plans for after graduation.

All requirements for Grad Transitions were due January 26, 2019. Go to <https://edmo.do/j/zgm8ze>

Students and parents who have questions about the **Graduation Transitions Plan** can email Mr. Taylor Clift at clift_t@surreyschools.ca.



Grad Slide Show

We need your photos!!!! The grad slide show is one of the highlights of the Grad Banquet. Go through your old photo albums and send along pictures of you and your grad classmates from elementary school, playing on sports teams, junior prom, attending field trips, or just hanging out at school.

Make sure that the photos are appropriate for a school sponsored event....no inappropriate content please!!!!



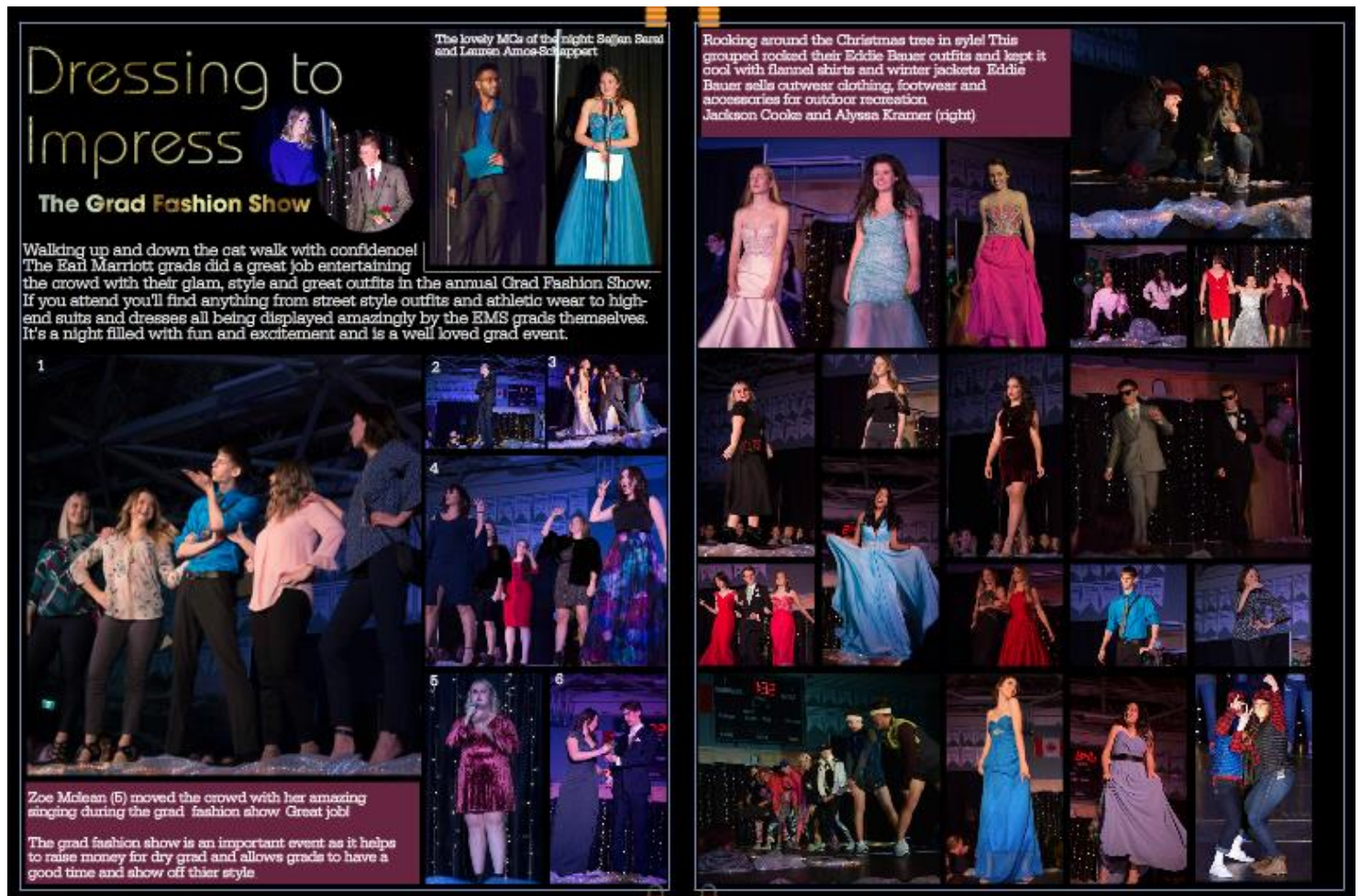
Yearbook Update

YEARBOOK: NOW \$60! Save and cherish your graduation memories! Yearbooks may be purchased for \$60 for a limited time only. EMS' yearbook is among the biggest in the district, yet is among the cheapest! You may also personalize your yearbook.

Three Easy Ways to Order your Yearbook:

- 1) BEST OPTION: Through jostens.com
- 2) Purchased through the office or School Cash online.
- 3) Bring a \$60 cheque to Room 120.

Sneak peak of your 2019 yearbook



Scholarship and Post-Secondary Information

EMS hosts meetings for the latest scholarship and post-secondary information. The meetings are called GPS and they are held the first Friday of every month during lunch in the Career Center. If you can't attend the meetings, take a look at the school website under Quick Links on the Counselling Department page, or sign up for the Mari-Time App!



Commencement Ceremony

The Commencement Ceremony will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at the Chandos Pattison Auditorium (@ Pacific Academy, 10238 – 168th Street, Surrey).

GRADS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT 5:30 pm FOR SEATING

Graduates will receive **3 free tickets**. Remaining tickets will be available by request at a cost of \$5.00 (one per family at first), with money collected used for scholarships for graduating students. All guests, including children must have a ticket and this ticket must be presented at the door for admission. Commencement tickets will be distributed at school mid-May. Stay tuned to our website, Grad email, announcements and the Mariner App for details. Look for our Spring Update after Spring Break.

Grads will not be issued commencement tickets unless

- **All Grad fees are paid**
- **All school fees and outstanding textbook charges are paid**
- **Grad Transitions Plan Completed**
- **Commencement Comment is completed**

Grad Gowns and Commencement Rehearsal

There will be a **mandatory** rehearsal and assembly for all Grads on Tuesday, May 21, in the school gym during the afternoon blocks. Following the assembly, Grads will receive their Grad gowns. Gowns are for Grads to keep. Please remove them from the package and hang them up. Do not iron the gown. Grads are reminded to bring the gown, hat and stole to the ceremony the following day. Dress for the ceremony is semi-formal with appropriate footwear to be seen below the gown length. Remember, purses, cell phones are to be left with Grads' families or at home as there will be no storage location and these items are not permitted on stage. **EMS is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

Valedictorian

Every year a valedictorian is selected to speak at the Commencement Ceremony on behalf of the graduating students.

**The Earl Marriott Secondary
Valedictorian Selection Committee
Is now accepting applications for the**



Class of 2019 Valedictorian

Does the following description sound like you?



- ✓ You are an excellent representative of your Grad Class.
- ✓ You have above average marks
- ✓ You are committed to your school and the community.
- ✓ You have demonstrated leadership abilities.
- ✓ You are a confident public speaker who looks forward to delivering speech at your Commencement Ceremony on May 22nd, 2019.

If this describes you, please put your name forward to be considered as Valedictorian. Application packages (see following page) must be submitted to Mrs. Koehler (Room 309) no later than 3:00pm, March 15th, 2019. No late or incomplete applications will be considered.

Valedictorian Continued

If you wish to be considered for the role of Valedictorian 2019, your application must include the following two parts and be submitted to Mrs. Koehler in room 309.

Part one: Comprehensive Valedictorian Resume

*Point form; no longer than 3 pages

Criteria:

- ✓ Good academic standing
- ✓ Demonstrates leadership qualities
- ✓ Exceptional citizenship at school and sustained community involvement



Part Two: Valedictorian Composition

*Typed, well written, maximum 500 words.

Criteria:

- ✓ Established representative of your graduating class
- ✓ A vision of what your role is as Valedictorian
- ✓ Evidence as a deserving candidate
- ✓ Theme/issue/topics your speech will address
- ✓ How your journey at EMS has influenced your experiences with fellow classmates, your memories, life lessons

Part Three: Short-listed Valedictorian Candidates

- ✓ Short-listed candidates will be invited to meet with the Valedictorian Selection Committee.
- ✓ Candidates will demonstrate their suitability as Valedictorian by presenting a mini-valedictorian speech.
- ✓ Themes/topics will be addressed in the mini-Valedictorian speech
- ✓ Finalists will be chosen from the Valedictorian Selection Committee
- ✓ The graduating class will vote for their Valedictorian

Family Celebration & Grad Banquet

This year, we are continuing our Family Celebration at the school prior to the Grad Banquet on Saturday, June 22, 2019. Students will arrive at the school (new gym) by 3:00pm. **Grads and their guests are reminded that this is a school sponsored event. There will be a security check of bags and purses. Anyone under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed entrance to the Family Celebration or Grad Banquet. Parents will be asked to take their children home and school discipline may be issued.**

A stand-up reception for parents and immediate family will follow with light dessert refreshments, coffee and tea. There will be a Grad walk for those who wish and opportunities for families to take pictures with graduates and their friends at the school. There will be several opportunities for a parent/grad dance and some toasts and speeches. Tickets for parents/family members will cost \$10 per person. **Tickets are limited to four per family to start.** Following the Family Celebration at about 5:00pm, Grads will depart the school by coach bus for the Newlands Golf and Country Club. **All Grads and guests will travel from the Family Celebration to the Grad Banquet on coach busses.**

The Grad banquet will be held at the Newlands Golf and Country Club, located at 21025 48th avenue, in Langley. A Grad photo will be taken between 6:00 and 6:30 pm.

Tickets will cost \$110 payable by cheque or online and will be purchased through a table order form. Deadline for order form and payment will be May 17, 2019. More details will be released in the Spring update. **Students may apply to bring a guest to the banquet. Anyone who is NOT a member of the EMS graduating class of 2019 is considered a "guest" and will need an approved guest pass.** Guest Pass Applications will be available April 9 at the office and are due May 3, 2019. Grade 11 EMS students are considered "guests" and will NEED an approved guest pass.

All school debts, including the \$50 grad fee, must be cleared before purchasing Family Celebration and Banquet tickets. Students also must have completed their Grad Transitions Plan and be in good academic standing on their mid-semester report card.

There is no smoking for any grads, guests or parents during the duration of the event as **there will be no in/out privileges for anyone attending the banquet.** Tickets must be presented to security upon entering the dance. This is Grad and Grad guest event only. Parents are encouraged to attend the Family Celebration.

Grads and their guests **will be required to drop off their change of clothes for Dry Grad to the school on Thursday, June 20 or Friday, June 21 in the box gym from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Bringing bags to the Grad Family Celebration/Banquet will not be permitted, nor will storing bags in parent vehicles. Bags will be transported securely from the school to the Dry Grad event and Grads will change at Dry Grad.**

All Grads and guests will be transported to the Dry Grad event from Newlands Golf and Country Club by bus.



Graduation Security: Guidelines & Procedures

- Each student or guest and their handbags will be subject to a search.
- Anyone, including guests, under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol will be refused entry to the Family Celebration and Graduation Banquet functions.
- No refunds will be issued if anyone is denied entrance or asked to leave due to inappropriate behaviour or intoxication. This includes students and guests.
- No one will be allowed to return to the function once they have left—**THERE ARE NO IN/OUT PRIVILEGES FOR ANY GUESTS, INCLUDING PARENTS.**
- Should a disturbance occur at Newlands, the facility reserves the right to end the function immediately.

Dry Grad

The Dry Grad Event will follow the Graduation Banquet on Saturday/Sunday, June 22/23, 2019, from 11:30 pm to 5:00 am. It will be held at the South Surrey Recreation Center. This is also a school-sponsored event but it is organized directly by our Grad parents. **We need volunteers.** If you would like to remain in the loop with regards to Dry Grad fundraising, events, planning, and volunteer opportunities, please email at emsdrygrad@gmail.com indicating you would like to be added to the dry grad email list.



Here are the details:

- Saturday June 23rd following the school organized dinner/dance taking place at Newlands Golf Club, the Dry Grad evening activities will begin.
- Those purchasing a ticket for the Dry Grad event will board buses at 11:00 pm from Newlands Golf Club and be transported back to the South Surrey Recreation Center for an evening full of fun and games.
- The Dry Grad event will run from 11:00 pm on Saturday June 22nd to approximately 5:00 am on Sunday June 23rd.
- Two large gyms will house over sized inflatable activities for the grads to enjoy. Activities such as a bungee run, sticky tricky obstacle course, the lagoon of doom, tycoon typhoon, and a mechanical bull are just a few of the carnival like activities that will be available.
- Another large gym will house a casino room where grads can try their

hand at poker, roulette, black jack, and more.

- Games, food, intuitive readers, and a photo booth are just a few other entertainment options available throughout the evening.
- Grads will be able to enter to win raffle prizes (winners will be drawn at the end of the event).
- The event will wrap up with a 90 minute hypnotist show.
- Upon completion of the hypnotist show and the Grand Prize Draw, grads will be ready for pick up by parents.

Students attending the Dry Grad must ride on the busses from the banquet event to the South Surrey Recreation Center. **Parents of students who have purchased Dry Grad tickets but who do not enter the dry grad event will be called. Tickets have cost approximately \$20 to \$30 in past years but are dependent on fundraising efforts. Tickets will be available when banquet tickets are sold through a similar order form process. More information regarding this event will follow in April.**

***CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
GRADUATES OF 2019!***

***WE WISH YOU ALL A SAFE
GRADUATION!***

September 16, 2016

Dear Parent / Guardians:

Re: Community Youth Activities “Grad Pranks”

In past years, there have been troubling incidents of unsafe behaviour and acts of vandalism involving youth in our neighbourhoods participating in reckless events, often characterized as grad activities. Such events are a trend, not just in our school district, but in other communities as well. We are asking for your help in ensuring your son or daughter is aware that unsafe and unacceptable behaviours can have serious consequences.

It is important that we work together to ensure that our young people do not take part in, or condone (provoke, encourage, or support):

- *Bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, threat(s) or intimidation;*
- *Violence of any form;*
- *Verbal, physical or sexual abuse;*
- *Discrimination in any form;*
- *Theft;*
- *Unsafe or dangerous activities*
- *Vandalism;*
- *Possession or use of intoxicating or banned substances;*
- *Possession or use of weapons (or replica weapons) and explosives*

Youth involved in these types of activities may face criminal and school consequences, including losing the privilege to attend extra-curricular events such as the grad ceremony and banquet. Students may also face suspension from school and/or criminal charges. Given that positive citizenship is often considered in selection for school and district scholarships and Passport to Education, poor decisions can also impact those award possibilities. Parents are also financially responsible for damage caused by their children – please see the attached School Act excerpt. We ask that you understand the school’s and district’s position in taking the necessary disciplinary steps in circumstances where inappropriate behaviour occurs.

We also fully support your decision to not permit your son or daughter to attend unsupervised events.

We often hear about camping trips, parties or trips to vacation spots like Whistler which are not organized by the district, parents or the school. Our shared goal of safety for all of our young people is compromised when these events occur. If you are uncertain about the status of an event please give school administration a call. We would be happy to clarify if this is an event supported by the school or the district. Each year in B.C., there are tragic events associated with “grad activities” that could be avoided through increased awareness and clear expectations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Rob Rai
Director, School and Community Connections



Inspector Andy LeClair
Community Support and Safety Officer, Surrey RCMP

LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING

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