



GRADUATION INFORMATIONAL PACKAGE

Congratulations! Your child is about to embark on his/her Grade 12 year! We are excited to walk this journey with you as you support your child through their final year of High School. This year is full of significant moments culminating into the grandest celebration of all, graduation! To many of you, this is a new endeavor so we want to keep you as informed as possible. Most of the information regarding grad will be emailed to you throughout the year so please check your emails regularly.

To begin the year, we would like to provide you with some essential information that may be helpful as you plan the year with your graduate. Please keep this information handy so you can refer to it throughout the year ☺

Grad Parent Committee

Graduation is a team effort and each year we seek out a committee of parents who are willing to commit themselves to assist our Grad Coordinator, Paul Sutherland. In the fall, Paul will select a committee of 4-6 Grade 12 parents who he feels will create a dynamic team to work with him on the details of things like:

- Grad trip ideas, information and booking
- Catering for banquet
- Coordination of grad after party
- Organizing Grade 11 parent/student volunteers to help at grad
- Heading up the decorating committee
- Coordinating apple pie fundraiser

Events Requiring Parent Volunteers

Grad would not be what it is without amazing parents who dedicate their time to help out at events throughout the year. We will be asking you to assist with the following events this year:

APPLE PIE FUNDRAISER VOLUNTEERS (LAST WEEK OF OCTOBER)

This fundraiser raises money to cover the majority of the costs for the grad trip and requires the participation of all graduates and grad parents. We will need parents to volunteer to make the pastry, help with apple peeling, or assist with assembling the pies. A sign up will be emailed in early October so parents can sign up to volunteer.

GRAD TRIP CHAPERONES (DATES OF TRIP VARY FROM YEAR TO YEAR)

Each year the grad class heads out on a grad trip for 2 or 3 nights, depending on the year and destination. This trip requires at least 3 parent chaperones. The Grad Coordinator will connect with parents several weeks before the trip to see who might be interested in chaperoning.

GRAD PARENT MEETING

After Spring Break, the Grad Coordinator will plan a meeting with all grad parents to discuss grad and what can be expected. At least one parent of each grad is required to attend this meeting. Student attendance is optional.

AFTER PARTY CHAPERONES (AFTER GRADUATION BANQUET ON GRAD DAY)

On the day of Graduation, after the dinner banquet, the grad class heads out for an evening of fun together to celebrate. This event requires approximately 5 parent chaperones. The Grad Coordinator will connect with parents several weeks before this event to see who might be interested in chaperoning.

GRAD SET UP: DAY BEFORE GRAD

Grad parents are responsible for setting up and decorating the day before grad. We will need strong muscles to assist with moving heavy items as well as those who have a knack for decorating, organizing and planning. A sign up will be emailed home so parents can sign up to volunteer.

Events Requiring Graduate Attendance

Your child's attendance is required a few times this year for important grad events and activities:

APPLE PIE FUNDRAISER: LAST WEEK OF OCTOBER

Grads will be working on every aspect of this fundraiser including selling pies (**each grad is required to sell 10 pies**), apple peeling, pie assembly and clean up. Their participation will take place during class time in the last week of October.

GRAD TRIP: 2-3 DAYS DURING SELECTED TIME FRAME

Grad trip location ideas come from the grads, the Grad Coordinator and the Grad Parent Committee. The Grad Parent Committee work together with the Grad Coordinator to plan the details of the trip. All grads are expected to participate in this trip as it is a wonderful opportunity for the class to bond and grow together as a group. There may or may not be additional fees associated with this trip depending on the location and the activities involved.

GRAD TRANSITIONS EVENING: ONE EVENING IN APRIL

This event takes place in the gym and gives the grads an opportunity to highlight who they are, where they have come from and where they are going. Each grad is asked to create a display that showcases those three areas. This event requires grads to plan their display in advance, and parent involvement in the display is often helpful for the grads. In addition, each grad is required to complete, in advance, a Grad Transition package containing questions about academics, future education plans, financial plans, etc. that will be included in their display. The Grad Coordinator will discuss this package with the grads during class time but they will need to take time to work on it at home. On Grad Transitions Evening, grads are interviewed by a variety of school staff regarding future plans, dreams and strategies for success. Once the interview time is over, the gym is open for family and friends to view displays.

CAP AND GOWN PORTRAITS: ONE SCHOOL DAY IN EARLY SPRING

The school will set up a day for our school photographer to come to the school to take cap and gown photos of the grads. Each grad will sign up ahead of time with the Grad Coordinator for a 15-minute photo session (there is no sitting fee for sessions). Boys are asked to wear a shirt and tie. Girls are asked to wear a V-neck shirt. These photos can be purchased by parents on an optional basis and are also used in our school yearbook. We do not offer retakes of these photos so all grads are asked to be in attendance on grad photo day.

FORMAL WEAR PHOTOS: ONE SESSION IN MAY

As a gift to the grads and their families, the school hires a professional photographer to take outdoor photos of each grad dressed in their formal grad attire. Students will sign up for a session with the Grad Coordinator in May. The location of these photos varies from year to year and students will be made aware of the location once it has been decided.

GRADUATION REHEARSAL: WEDNESDAY BEFORE GRAD

All grads are required to attend a short graduation rehearsal on the Wednesday before the grad ceremony. This rehearsal is held immediately after school and typically takes less than an hour to complete.

GRADUATION CEREMONY, BANQUET AND AFTER PARTY: ONE SATURDAY IN JUNE

The grad ceremony, banquet and after party are all held one Saturday in June (typically this Saturday before the last week of classes). A traditional outline for the day looks like this:

- 1 pm: Grads meet at McGuire Lake for a group photo with formal gown or suit on
- 3 pm: Graduation ceremony begins at KCS. Everyone is invited to attend
- 4-5 pm: Families, friends and grads meet outside in the parking lot for greetings, photos, etc. while the gym is transformed for the banquet
- 5 pm: Graduation banquet begins. This banquet is for ticket holders only. Grad families can purchase up to 10-12 tickets for the banquet ahead of time. Tickets are not for sale on grad day.
- 8 pm: Grads leave for their after party. The after party end time varies from year to year.

Fees Associated with Graduation

Graduation at KCS is a significant milestone and we desire to honour and celebrate our grads throughout their Grade 12 year. Some of the costs associated with the celebration of our grads is covered by the school. However, it is the grad parents who are responsible to cover most of the costs. Here is an outline of fees, costs and expenses that the school and parents can expect during grad year:

PARENT COSTS

- **\$100 Grad fee due to KCS before October 31st.** This fee covers grad costs that are incurred over the year. Expenditures differ from year to year but may include: grad trip, after party, grad gown rental, banquet costs, etc.

- Approx. \$100-200: Cap and gown portraits (this is an optional cost if families choose to order photos)
- Approx. \$400-\$500: Grad day suit or dress
- Between \$50-\$200: Hair, make up and or nails done by a professional (if desired)
- Costs associated with grad trip (varies from year to year)
- Up to \$300: Grad Banquet tickets. Tickets are \$25 each and families can purchase a max of 12 tickets

COSTS COVERED BY THE SCHOOL

- Formal Grad photos (photographer fee paid by the schools. Grads will receive a CD of photos and families can print photos if they choose to)
- Grad Hoodies purchased on behalf of the school board as a gift for the grads
- Grad decorations for ceremony and banquet

We hope this package has provided adequate information regarding what you can expect as a grad parent this year. Thank you for working together with us to make this coming year successful. We look forward to an amazing year with this year's grad class!

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our grad program or grad events, please email Mr. Sutherland: psutherland@kingschristianschool.com. Questions or concerns regarding KCS academic courses, graduation requirements, scholarships or post-secondary education can be sent to Mr. Baker: bbaker@kingschristianschool.com.