



F R A N C E S

K E L S E Y

S E C O N D A R Y S C H O O L

953 SHAWNIGAN-MILL BAY ROAD, MILL BAY, BC, V0R 2P2

TEL (250) 743-6916 • FAX (250) 743-6915
SCHOOL DISTRICT 79 (COWICHAN VALLEY)

FKSS GRAD 2025 – GRAD GUIDE

Dear parents of graduating students,

We are coming up on some VERY exciting times. We are very much looking forward to celebrating your graduating students and the culmination of their schooling journey to date.

The following is some important information for Grad 2025!

Important Dates/Events:

1. **Bursary & Scholarship Night – Wednesday, June 11, at 7:00 PM in the FKSS Gym:**

Students who have been selected to receive a bursary or scholarship will be invited, along with their parents / family members, to attend our ceremony June 11th, at 7:00 PM. Parents and students will be invited June 1st via email. The invitation will not include information about which award(s) students will receive. That is a fun surprise that we save for the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, we hold a tea in our Dome (main foyer). The tea provides an opportunity for bursary and scholarship recipients to thank donors and for parents and guests to mingle. It is encouraged that grads know a bit about all of the organizations they applied to so that they can have a meaningful conversation with donors at the tea.

2. **Red Carpet and Dry Grad – Friday, June 13**

FKSS Dry Grad on Facebook



FKSS Dry Grad on Instagram



Dry grad is a non-alcoholic party put on for the graduates by the caregivers of the students. The cost for Dry Grad can run from 15k-40k depending on what items we choose for catering, gifts for the students, and activities.

This year, the FKSS Dry Grad 2025 is being held at Arbutus Ridge Golf Course on Friday, June 13th. The Dry Grad will start with a red carpet walk up for each student into the venue, which can occur after each student is dropped off in a vehicle of their choice. If the student chooses

the drop off option, cars will be lining up along the road leading into the venue an hour ahead of start time to facilitate ease of access and time for each grad to walk up.

The families will not be able to take pictures together at the venue for the Dry Grad Event due to space and time limitations, however if they wish for photos of their student walking up, there will be space to take photos or videos as they walk the carpet into the venue. More information about this process will be coming, along with info about times and specifics for the event.

For this information to be made available, tickets to be purchased, or any questions the Dry Grad Parent Committee needs contact information for each student. The school is not able to provide us this due to their privacy legislation for students, so please fill out one of the sheets available so you are kept up to date and can be contacted for tickets etc.

The Dry Grad is put on with funds that the Dry Grad committee volunteer to fundraise throughout the year. Those fundraisers include Cash Raffle, Firewood Raffle, Panago tickets, Purdy's Chocolates, and a corporate sponsorship where businesses and organizations are contacted to donate to support the graduating class.

The Dry Grad Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month in the library at FKSS and all are welcome, for information sharing, networking and fundraising supports. Please come out to connect, this event cannot happen for the students without the support of their families.

3. **Cap and Gown (Walk Up) Ceremony – Friday, June 20, at 6:30 PM in the FKSS Gym:**

Tickets: Each grad will be offered up to 4 tickets (at no cost). Grads will let us know how many they need up to 4. These tickets will be handed out at the first rehearsal. Additional tickets may be requested at this time. *If additional tickets are available,* they will be handed out at the second rehearsal. Please note that tickets will not be handed out to anyone who is not on the "Good to Go Grad" list.

Students must meet the BC Grad requirements to participate in this event.

Applying for Scholarships and Bursaries:

On Wednesday Jan 15, there was a Scholarship and Bursary presentation for grade 12 students. Students were given an application “kit” with important instructions on how to apply for scholarships and bursaries. Much of this information can be found at fkss.sd79.bc.ca (under the *Grad* tab, toggle *Scholarships*). If a student was absent for this, paper copies of the kits can be picked up from Ms. Butler. **All local scholarship applications are due to Norma Wheeler in counselling at the end of the day on Friday, March 14.** There are over 100 local scholarships!!

There will be a meeting on February 3rd any students who would like to do a **District Scholarship presentation**. The presentation date is usually in the third week of May, but we do not have this from the District yet.

How do I know if my child is meeting the BC graduation requirements?

- Semester 1 Learning updates will be available both on the parent portal and on paper by February 6.
- Parents can go on the parent portal and look at the Grad Status updates.
- Parents can email their child’s counsellor. Students with last name A-L (Mark Kirchner mkirchner@sd79.bc.ca and Nic Schofield nschofield@sd79.bc.ca. M-Z Robby Wright rwright@sd79.bc.ca)
- Graduation Plan Worksheets are on page 12 on the student agenda.

CLC (Q Block) and Graduation Assessments

Career Life Connections 12 is graduation requirement. Currently, grade 12 students have focussed on completing the coursework. The second half of the school year, students begin to plan for their Capstone presentations.

In the mid-year learning outcome that comes out in on February 6, please pay attention to how your child is doing in this course. It would also be good to speak to him or her about what they plan to do for their Capstone presentation. Students who do a District Scholarship Presentation in May will also get credit for their Capstone presentation.

Students also must complete three Graduation Assessments to meet the graduation requirements – Numeracy 10, Literacy 10 and Literacy 12.