



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE  
**HANDSWORTH**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL



April 9, 2025

Dear Handsworth Families of 2025 Graduates:

As we settle into the final term of the school year, I am certain the realization that we are down to the final couple of months of the school year – and the final lap of your journey through K-12 – is sinking in. This time of year is especially important for our Grade 12s, not only to prepare for the next chapter in life, but also to celebrate all of the accomplishments that have led to where you are now. With that, I am very pleased to share with you the details of our upcoming grad events.

#### **Graduation Ceremony Rehearsal**

Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30am in the Handsworth Grand Commons. To prepare for the ceremony, graduates are required to attend a rehearsal happening on the morning of Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. As part of the morning event, a Grad Breakfast will also be hosted by the Grad Parent Committee. Graduates, please be at the school by 7:30am for breakfast, followed by a rehearsal that will end by the conclusion of tutorial time at 9:10am. Staff will distribute Grad gowns (with stole and cap) during this event. Gowns have been custom ordered for each student and are theirs to keep. To avoid a delay in receiving grad gown, please ensure that your School Cash Online payments are up to date.

#### **Graduation Ceremony**

Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at the Orpheum Theatre: 601 Smithe Street, Vancouver.

Grads are asked to please arrive at the Orpheum by 6:15pm. Each student's grad gown will serve as their entry ticket. All others attending will need to purchase tickets for the ceremony in advance using School Cash Online between April 14<sup>th</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10 each and will not be available to buy at the door. There are no limits on the number of tickets that you wish to purchase and reserved seating is not available.

#### **Grade 12 Valedictorian Applications**

Grade 12s interested in applying to be this year's valedictorian can access the application form on the **MS Teams GRAD 2025 Team page**. Completed applications are due by **Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00pm** and should be handed in directly to Mr. Hungle. A selection committee made up of students and staff will first short-list a small group of applicants for auditions, then choose the valedictorian/s to give the farewell address at the Graduation Ceremony.

#### **Graduation Banquet**

Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm – 11:00pm at the Westin Bayshore Hotel: 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver. This event is for grads and is open to their family and guests. Tickets are \$150 each and can be purchased through School Cash Online. Please note that this is a dry event for all guests (grads, parents and guests). There is no alcohol permitted prior to arrival or during this event and there are no in and out privileges or refunds for those not granted entry or asked to leave due to alcohol or substance use. As a school event, all Handsworth Code of Conduct expectations apply.

Ticket sales are open beginning on Monday, April 14, 2025 through Friday, May 9, 2025.

Banquet table arrangements are organized by Ms. Carabetta, here is the step by step process:

1. Families purchase tickets (Cash Online). Graduates are allowed to invite a 'plus one' - there is no limit as to many tickets each family purchases.
2. Graduates and family members decide who they will sit with.
  - a. Tables seat 8-10 guests. There are only 10 tables that seat 12 guests. If this is what your family wants, please make sure you have a back-up option should the tables be occupied before your graduate signs up.
  - b. Tables that seat 12 guests will be drawn from a lottery. If you or your graduate would like to be considered, please have your graduate message Ms. Carabetta on Teams.
3. The graduate will then fill out a form with each person's **first and last name** sitting at their table. (form attached)
  - a. Graduates sometimes choose to sit with their friends and their parents sit at a table nearby. **It is the graduate's responsibility to fill out a form that includes the adults that are with them.**
4. Graduates and family members choose their top 3 choices for **where** they would like to sit in the banquet room on the form provided.
5. Graduates will then sign up for a time slot to select their banquet tables. Time slots are scheduled from **Tuesday, May 20 to Friday, May 23**. The link can be found on the HSS Grads Teams page. At their appointed time slot,



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students will hand in their form for table arrangements and select one of their top 3 choices for table position.  
First come, first served. Proof of purchase is required to select a table.

Any questions regarding the banquet can be directed to Ms. Carabetta at [scarabetta@sd44.ca](mailto:scarabetta@sd44.ca).

I also would like to thank this graduating class for their efforts in ensuring that non-sanctioned grad events have not, and will continue to not interrupt teaching and learning at Handsworth. As future events are planned, we appreciate that you remind and support each other in ensuring that these non-school sanctioned activities continue to be separate from the school. We are very excited to be celebrating with our graduating class and look forward to enjoying the Convocation Ceremony and Graduation Banquet with them, their guests, and family.

To our grads: In the coming weeks that mark the wind-down of your time at Handsworth, I urge you to continue to focus your efforts and to keep up the work that you have started. As the days become longer and warmer, and the distractions from learning increase, I remind those who may have missed assignments or have fallen behind to re-focus yourself on your learning over the next several weeks and to seek help from your teachers. Also, please be sure that all graduation requirements are completed or are on track to be completed by the end of June. Please see Ms. Macario if you need assistance verifying your path to graduation. Additionally, please speak to your teacher(s) regarding North Vancouver Online Learning deadlines if you are completing any course through NVOL or other on-line platforms, to ensure everything is on track to be complete for graduation this June.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Cary Hungle, Principal