



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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August 24, 2020

Dear Argyle Grads of 2021 and Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have had an opportunity to make the most of such an unusual Summer. I am looking forward to welcoming students back, and am writing to provide you with some important **Grad Updates**. More detailed information on how school will look for Stage 2 of the K-12 Education Restart Plan in the North Vancouver School District, and specifically what this will look like at Argyle will be announced later this week and next once plans are approved by the Ministry of Education.

We are working to ensure that students will be able to take the courses that they have registered for within their graduation program. Our Post-Secondary partners are well aware of the changes to 'school' this year and will respond accordingly in their acceptance procedures.

First off, congratulations on reaching the final stages of high school life. Grade 12 is a time of significant decision-making, considerable learning, and celebration. This year is shaping up to be unique on many fronts given the pandemic and the move to the new school. We are excited about the upcoming move later this calendar year and graduating our first class in the new school.

Below are some important Grad Updates:

Graduation & School Photos

Traditionally Argyle's graduation photo sittings have been in late Fall-Winter. We really want to make sure our grads have the opportunity to have a full graduation photo session. With the uncertainty that exists for the winter we seized the opportunity to move our graduation photos to September. The September sitting offers many advantages including:

- A studio set up at the Education Services Centre where physical distancing can be maintained. The studio can be better spaced out at the ESC compared to Argyle.
- Grads will also have their school photo taken and ID card printed on the spot. This means they will not miss class time for school photos.
- We will be guaranteed to have graduation photos in the yearbook. Had we been required to reschedule the originally scheduled grad photos for January we may not be able to meet yearbook deadlines and would have had to include school photos.
- There will be a retake date in November should any grad be unable to attend in September.
- For more information and to book a graduation portrait session please read the letter from Grads BC that follows after this letter.

Grad & Bubble Buddy Portrait sessions are scheduled for:

- Grad Cap/Gown/Fashion/Video: Sept 8th, 9th and 10th, 9am-9pm daily
- Grad Buddy Photos: Sept 8th, 9th and 10th, 9:30am - 9:30pm daily
- Grad Retake opportunity: November 18th after school hours

Location: Education Services Centre @ 2121 Lonsdale Ave. (except for retakes)

School Sanctioned Grad Events

I will update families on the status of different graduation events as the year unfolds. Venues are booked for the School Sanctioned Grad Events (Grad Guys Dance, Grad Girls Dance, Grad Ceremony, Grad Banquet), however plans may have to change based on Provincial Health orders.

Grad Safety

For each of our grade 12 students, the graduation year is one of the most special, memorable, and celebrated milestones of their lives to date. Grad activities are meant to be a time of celebration, but those celebrations must be safe and physically distanced. It's especially important, at this time of year, when concerns for student safety are heightened, that you be aware of your child's social activities and support them in making the right choices for their own well-being, and for sake of the greater community.

There are four School Sanctioned Grad Events listed above. "Unsanctioned" social activities may include events like house parties, camp-outs, grad "kidnaps", "Gotcha" games, and other gatherings. It's important that parents do their own research and confirm the safety precautions and supervision that will be provided at these events as they are organized and operated without the involvement of our school and staff. This research is important, as it's our understanding that supervision and physical distancing may be inadequate for the type of event that has been planned.

Graduation Assessments

I received notification today that the Implementation of the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment has been postponed until the 2021/22 school year. This means that grade 12's only need to have written the Numeracy 10 graduation assessment. Almost all grade 12 wrote this assessment in grade 10/11 and those that haven't will have an opportunity to write it this year.

Like every graduation class, I will challenge the grads to demonstrate leadership with the rest of the student body at the school. I expect our grads to demonstrate good judgment in the classroom, hallways, in the community, and at school-sponsored events. Our grads help set the tone for the school as younger students look up to them as role models.

I look forward to welcoming students back to school in September and hope you enjoy the rest of your summer holidays.

Sincerely,



Kim Jonat
Principal

August 24, 2020

Hello Argyle Grads and Families!

Exciting news! Grad Cap and Gown + Fashion Photos + Video Interviews AND "Bubble Buddy" sessions are coming up earlier this year! Sessions will take place on September 8th, 9th and 10th at the North Vancouver District Office/Education Services Centre. This environment allows us to provide quality portrait sessions within a safe and comfortable convenient location.

Our goal is to provide a portrait session that honours your 13 years of academic achievement which is why we are offering sessions at the beginning of September while it is safe to do so. Don't miss out on your opportunity to celebrate and mark this memorable time in your life! These photos will be included in the yearbook, grad wall composite and will include a proofing gallery for you to view and order. For more information on the sessions please visit this link: www.gradsbc.com/school/arg

To book your preferred session time, please visit this link:

Grad Cap and Gown

<https://gradsbc.as.me/?appointmentType=16449617>

Bubble Buddies (Family and Friend group photos within your bubble)

<https://gradsbc.as.me/?appointmentType=16452352>

After running 75+ physically distanced grad events during COVID in May/June – our team has the in-field experience to ensure your grad portrait session is not only a memorable experience but one that is in a safe environment with trained staff that care about your wellness. Our appointments are scheduled to allow for adequate space and flow of foot traffic during your time in our studio area. Our staff will be fully equipped with PPE and follow strict safety guidelines in regards to sanitization of equipment, gowns and props between each student. To see our official safety plan please refer to our website. www.gradsbc.com/school/arg

BONUS: Grads that attend the above session dates will also be photographed for their **Student ID card**. We will be printing the cards on-site for you to take home at no additional cost. Grade 12's that miss the above appointment times will still have an opportunity to be photographed for their ID cards during regular school photo day, however there will be a longer delay in receiving the card as it will be distributed by homeroom from the school 2-3 weeks after. **

***Book by September 1st and you will automatically be entered into a draw to win a RYU (Rule Your Universe) Quick Pack 18L backpack, retailed at \$175!**

The web link above will also give you specific details on the services and products you will be receiving from GradsBC; starting with fall portraits all the way to your year-end grad events. You will also find useful tips on how to prepare for your cap and gown session, fashion station and video interview, as well as highlight videos from past grad years so you can get a glimpse of what's to come!

We look forward to seeing you from behind the lens!

Questions? Please call the GradsBC office: 604-461-3722 or info@gradsbc.com

Sincerely,

GradsBC