



Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians;

Our graduating students continue to show great resilience and determination in working to achieve their goals this year. We are proud of the students and are looking forward to celebrating their accomplishments at the end of the school year.

Although we remain under the direction of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO), we are tentatively saving the dates June 23, 24 and maybe June 25 for Commencement 2021.

We are dependent on the PHO orders, but our tentative plans for Commencement are:

Plan A – Royal Bay theatre, groups of students only (same as last year)

Plan B – Royal Bay theatre, groups of students and a set number of guests

Plan C - larger venue, students and a set number of guests

Grad fees will be \$40, which includes cap & gown, folder (grad photo, certificate), and Grad T shirt. Grad fee payment, gown size ordering, and grad comment entry will all be done online, and more information will be coming in early February.

At this point, we are not setting a date for a dinner/dance (Prom), but we will be prepared to start planning immediately if the PHO direction indicates that this type of event might be possible.

More details will be forthcoming, but we wanted to let students and families know that we are making tentative plans for Commencement and to hold June 23, 24, and 25 in their calendars.

As you know the Grad Ceremony is not likely going to be a traditional ceremony. We will endeavor to make the best of a situation that is impacting every Canadian. I am calling on the Grad Class of 2021 to elect Valedictorians to deliver a video presentation to the Graduating Class of 2021.

The nomination process is as follows:

**Criteria:**

1. Provide a 500-word letter outlining what leadership/volunteer work the nominee has participated in and how their work has benefited Royal Bay and/or an outside community project.



2. The nominee's teachers will be asked by RBSS admin to confirm the nomination, recognizing the student's work ethic and contributions to the classroom.
3. The Valedictorian nominations committee will consider the nominee's GPA in the selection process. Valedictorian by definition is a top academic student, and Royal Bay School Administration will limit the finalists based on academic achievement.

The completed Leadership letters are to be submitted to [mlait@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:mlait@sd62.bc.ca) by **12:00 noon Friday, February 12, 2021.**

Nominees who have fulfilled **ALL** the criteria will be notified **Wednesday, February 17, 2021.**

All nominations are subject to review by the Royal Bay School Administration.

Top nominees will provide a video speech that must include enough information to explain why they would be a great representative of the graduating class. The speeches will be shared with the graduating class, and voted on.

Thank you,

Martin Lait  
Vice Principal  
Royal Bay Secondary School