

Western Canada High School Grad Rehearsal: May 13, 2025

Please email to ask questions as we do not have time during the rehearsal. In person questions may be asked while you pick up your gowns

1. Acknowledgment of the Land
2. Communication tools
3. Grad Banquet and Expectations
4. Graduation Ceremony Overview
5. Closing Ceremony and Expectations
6. Safe Grad
7. About Gowns
8. Grad Attire Distribution

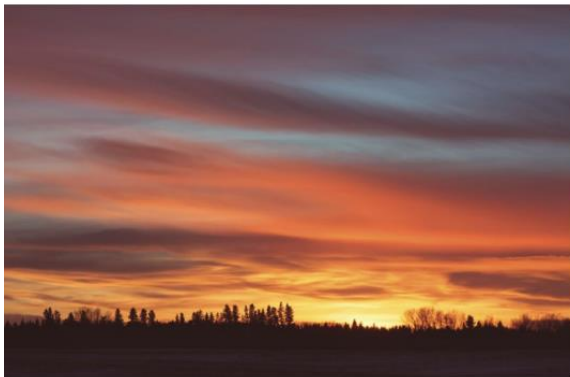


learning | **as unique** | as every student



Calgary Board
of Education

The rehearsal is not taped, please refer to the sheet handed out at the beginning of the rehearsal



Oki, Dadánast'áda, Âba Wathtec, Tânisî, Taanishi, Bonjour, Hello

The Calgary Board of Education acknowledges the traditional territories and oral practices of the Treaty 7 Nations, including the Siksikaitsitapi, comprised of the Siksika, the Kainai, the Piikani, and the Amskapi Piikani Nations. We acknowledge the Tsuut'ina Nation, the Îyârhe Nakoda, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney Nations, the Métis Nation within Alberta, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of southern Alberta.

This land on which we gather is traditionally known as Moh'kinstsis (Blackfoot), Guts'ists'i (Tsuut'ina), Wîchîspa (Nakoda), and otôskwanîhk (Northern Michif & Cree).

As a learning organization, we are committed to advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action focused on Education for ReconciliACTION.

Welcome and Congratulations!

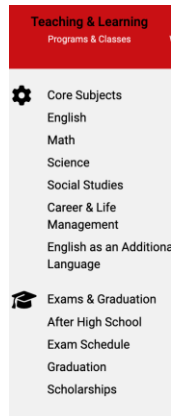
WCHS Staff Graduation Committee:

- Banquet / Website: Mr. Smith
- Closing Ceremony: Ms. Scharfenberger
- Gowns: Ms. Adams
- Speeches: Ms. Olson and Ms. Harding
- Programs: Ms. Schwartz
- Finances: Mr. Lakhani & Ms. George



Communication Tools

1. WCHS Website & D2L Announcements



Graduating Class of 2025

The culmination of twelve years of education is a special time in the lives of students, parents, and staff. We recognize this is an important passage and an occasion to be marked with two formal ceremonies. Direct Grad inquiries to Kelsey Harding. **Important links (e.g.) grad gown ordering, grad photo bookings, and valedictorian application forms are posted in the date timeline found below.**

At the start of semester two we publish a detailed newsletter containing specifics about both the Grad Ceremony and Banquet & Dance. In addition, ongoing communications to our grade twelve graduands occurs across various platforms. They are:

Related Information

- [Grad Ceremony Newsletter](#)
- [Banquet & Dance Newsletter](#)
- [Grad Menu \(2025\)](#)
- [Table Planning Form \(2025\)](#)



2. School Messenger (Parents)

CLASS OF 2025

LIMITLESS

HORIZONS

WESTERN CANADA HIGH SCHOOL

THURSDAY 22 MAY
BMO CENTRE (HALL D)

Banquet & Dance

5:30	Reception
6:30	Program Commences
7:00	Dinner and Buffet
9:00	Dance

Schedule pick-ups for after 9:00 pm at the earliest

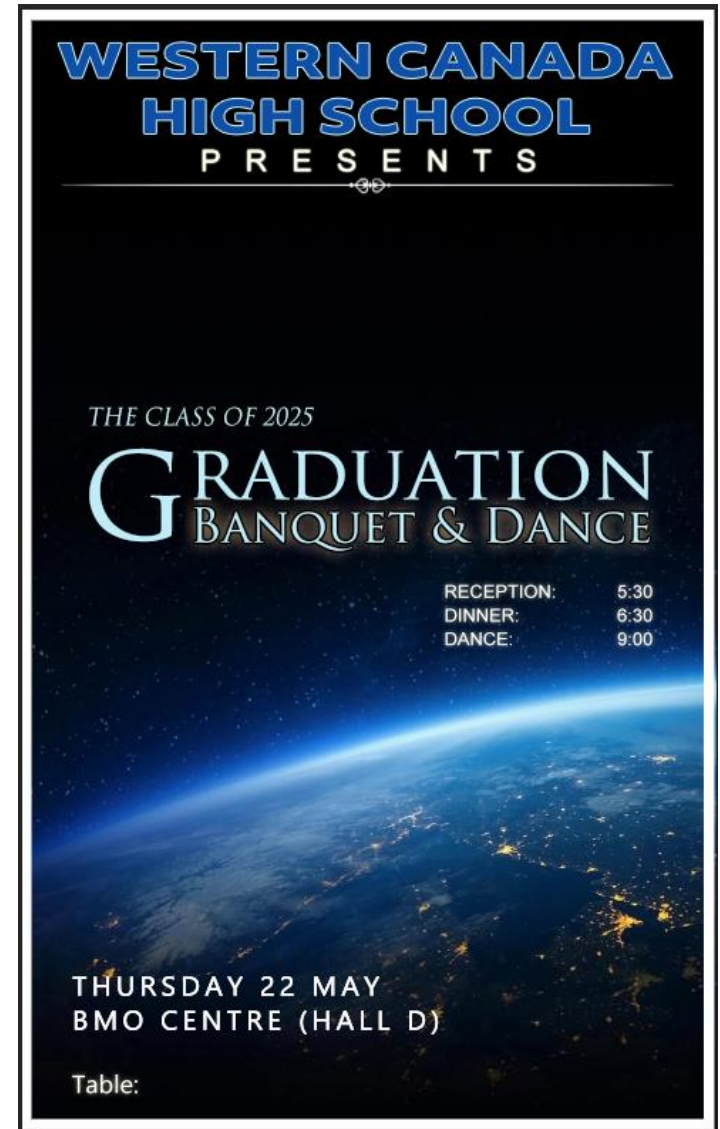
Banquet doors close at **6:30 pm** and remain closed until the program is complete. If you are late, you will wait.

- All bags are checked by security – no alcohol, tobacco. School event, school rules.
- Time needed for guests to enter hall. **Arrive by 6:15**
- No exit & re-entry for student guests

Banquet & Dance

- A ticket is needed to enter hall
- Tickets are distributed to group captains only (ID required)
- Group Captains receive envelope with tickets as well as a guest list indicating assigned tables
- Group Captains must ensure that guests receive ticket for their assigned table
- Table numbers are on the ticket.

Table Number



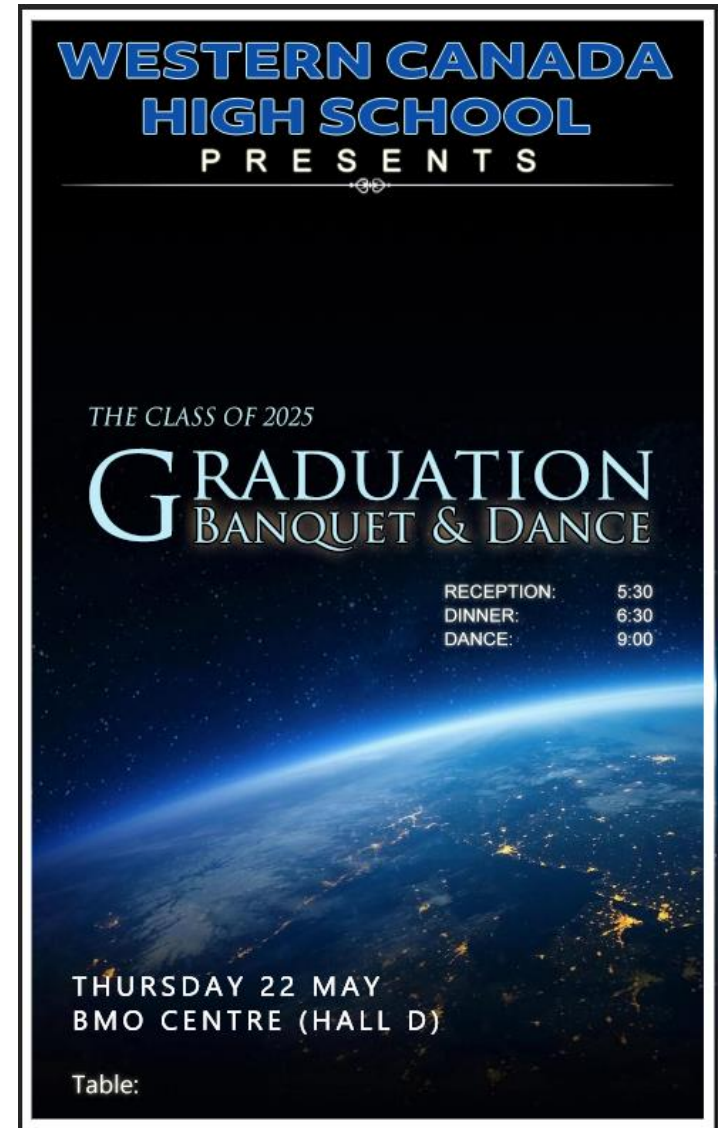
Banquet & Dance

- Count names, Count tickets, and distribute tickets as noted on the table roster. Cross off names as you hand out the tickets.
- Communicate issues to Mr. Smith

 71	7	1	8
Barry Smith	1		1
Brettney Savoie	1		1
Christine Deyell	1		1
Graham Harker		1	1
Jeremy Johnson	1		1
Kailey Fitzpatrick	1		1
Kayla Howatt	1		1
Martha Affleck	1		1

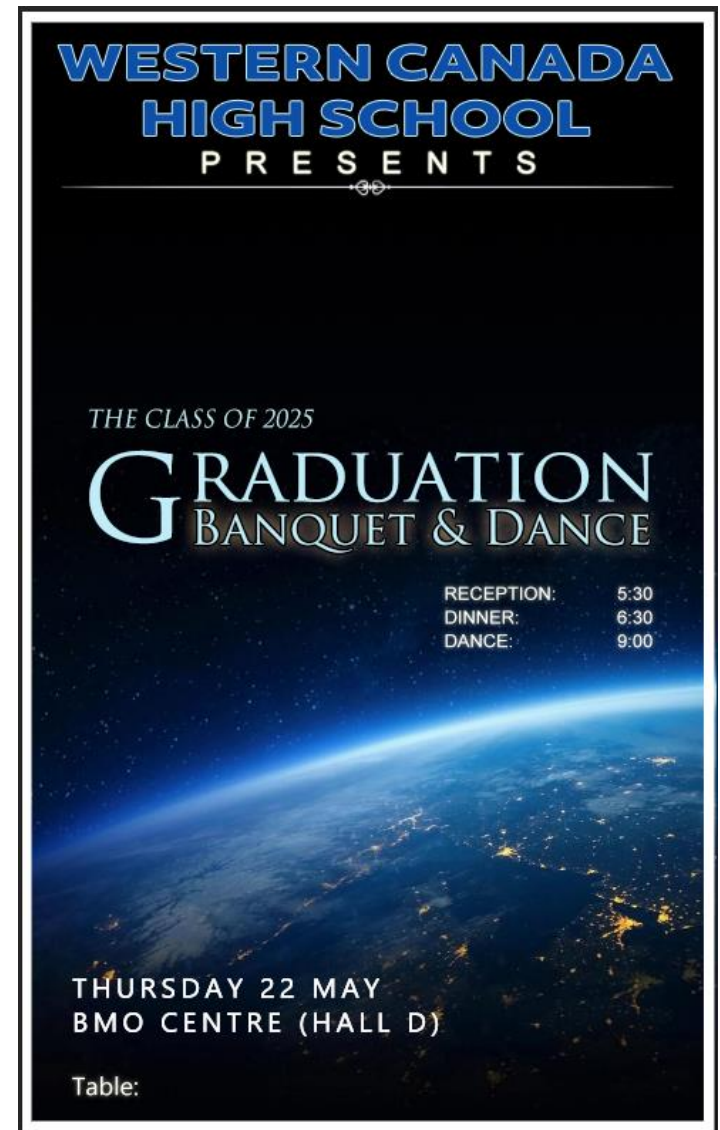
Banquet & Dance

- Count names, Count tickets, and distribute tickets as noted on the table roster. Cross off names as you hand out the tickets.
- Communicate issues to Mr. Smith
- There were changes, corrections and additions since the seating list was posted.
- Table changes now are limited
- A guest roster will be at venue should issues arise.



Banquet & Dance

- BMO Centre – Hall D
- Entrance to Hall D is on the north side of the building
- Give yourself lots of time to park, make your way to the entrance, & get through security
- There is a lot of construction in area. Give yourself time
- Parking onsite is \$18



Graduation Ceremony Overview

- “O Canada”
- Invocation and Acknowledgment of the Land
- Principal’s Message – **Mr. Whitbread**
- Greetings from the CBE – **Ms. Susan Vukadinovic**
- Introduction to the Guest Speaker
- Guest Speaker
- Introduction of 1st Group of Graduands – A – G by **Mr. Wiebe**
- Musical Selection
- Introduction of the 2nd Group of Graduands – H – O by **Ms. Harding**
- Valedictory Address
- Introduction for the 3rd Group of Graduands – P – Z by **Ms. Scharf**
- Principal’s Remarks – **Mr. Whitbread**
- Western Band Musical Performance

Expectation: Grads must stay for the entire ceremony and guests are requested to stay as well.

Length: 3 to 3.5 hours



Thursday May 22, 2025

Markin MacPhail Centre at Canada Olympic Park

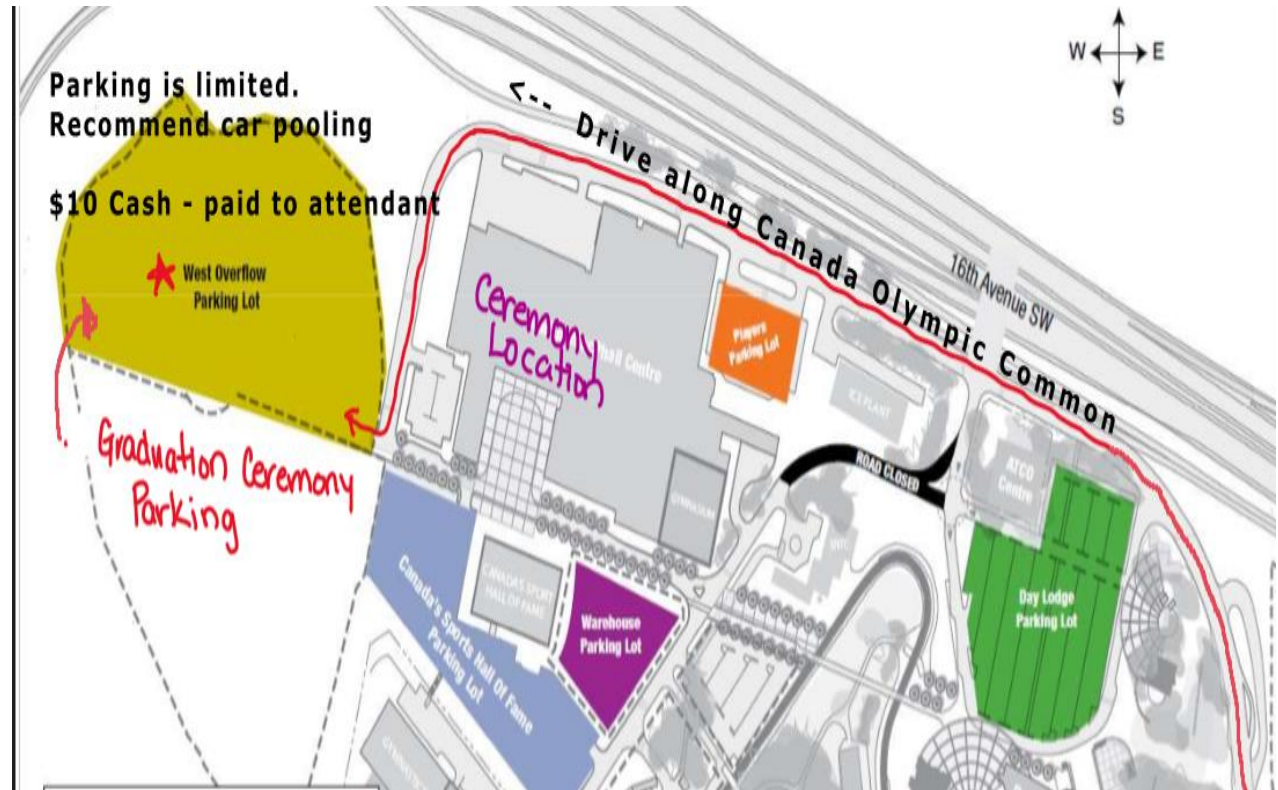
- Arrival – Graduands are asked to arrive for 8 AM
- Guests should arrive by 8:30 AM to ensure ample time to park and be seated in the venue for 9AM start of the grad program



Thursday May 22nd

Markin MacPhail Centre, Canada Olympic Park

- Parking:
\$10 cash
- Park in the
West Overflow
Parking Lot
(see yellow)
- Carpooling
highly
recommended



When You Arrive...

- Give purse, phone and flowers to parents – Hands Free Ceremony!
- Guests can pick up a program and head to the event centre to find their seats. Guests with mobility considerations, email Ms. Scharfenberger for direction
- Graduands, enter through the front doors and proceed into the event centre and turn left



Where do graduands go?



- Pick up your name card
- Write your name phonetically (with teacher support), if necessary
- Line up for the processional by last name, the card you receive is numbered to help you find your spot in line
- Go to the bathroom before we enter the arena!

Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

Group 1 – Last Names A-G

Marshalls: Mr. Brady, Ms. Chauhan

Group 2- Last Names H-O

Marshalls: Mr. Bernier, Mr. Hong

Group 3- Last Names P-T

Marshalls: Mr. Devereaux, Ms. Dale

Group 4- Last Names U-Z, Choir

Marshalls: Mr. Laberge, Ms. Weiss





Line-ups for Processional

A-G Subgroups

Group A: Abakar to Andersen

Ms. Affleck



Group B: Anderson to Baye

Ms. Barbet

Group C: Beach-Scalley to
Campbell

Mr. Hunchak



Line-ups for Processional

A-G Subgroups

Group D: Caraher to Colgan

Mr. Wowkodaw



Group E: Connell to Diallo

Ms. Boyce



Line-ups for Processional

A-G Subgroups

Group F: Diaz Wals to Fevry
Ms. Bradley



Group G: Filipovic to Gupta
Ms. Brennan

Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

H-O Subgroups

Group H: Ha to Henry-White

Ms. Cavallin



Group I: Hernadi to Hyman

Mr. Chow

Group J: Ibe to Juskiw

Mr. Comeau



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

H-O Subgroups

Group K: Kailey to Kolber

Ms. Deyell



Group L1: Kolesov to Lee

Ms. Faulconer



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

H-O Subgroups

Group L2: Leech to Liang

Ms. Ghira



Group L3: Lieu to Luong

Ms. Graham

Group M1: Ma to Mao

Mr. Guilloux



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

H-O Subgroups

Group M2: Marshall to Mehra

Mr. Gresham



Group M3: Meldrum to Montgomery

Ms. Johnson

Group M4: Morey to Mytus

Mr. Locey



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

H-O Subgroups

Group N: Nagmote to Nsakala
Mbuku

Ms. Lofting

Group O: Ntertzia to Ozturk

Mr. Ma





Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

P-T Subgroups

Group P: Pacey to Price

Mr. McKellar



Group Q: Qi to Ross

Ms. Meier



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

P-T Subgroups

Group R: Sadeghi to Setiাপutra

Mr. Mooney



Group S: Shah to Smith

Mr. Newman



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

P-T Subgroups

Group T: Sojka to Sztabzyb

Ms. O'Malley



Group U: Tan to Turner

Ms. Ozero

Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

U-Z Subgroups

Group V: Udemba to Vo

Ms. Peciulis



Group W: Wagner to Wong

Mr. Phillips

Group X: Xie to Yule

Mr. Shrestha



Line-ups for Processional (parents not permitted)

U-Z Subgroups

Group Z: Zabinsky to Zuita Naranjo

Mr. Stewart

Group Choir: Gr 12 Choir Students

Ms. Reinhardt



Processional (approx. 8:50 am)



- Marshalls guide graduands towards the arena to begin the ceremony
- Please stay in your alphabetical order, this makes it easier for the photographers later
- Marshalls will guide you to your seats
- Remain standing

Proceed to the Stage

- Marshalls signal rows when it is time to stand
- Move towards the right side of stage. Look for Marshalls - they will guide you
- Adjust Gown and Stole (teachers there to help)
- Walk up stage stairs towards administrator at podium
- Tassel on right side of cap



Crossing the Stage



- Hand your assistant principal your name card
- Whisper your name in their ear if requested.
- When name is announced:
 - Move tassel to left side of cap
 - Walk towards Mr. Whitbread

The TASSEL

Right side: before
your name is
announced

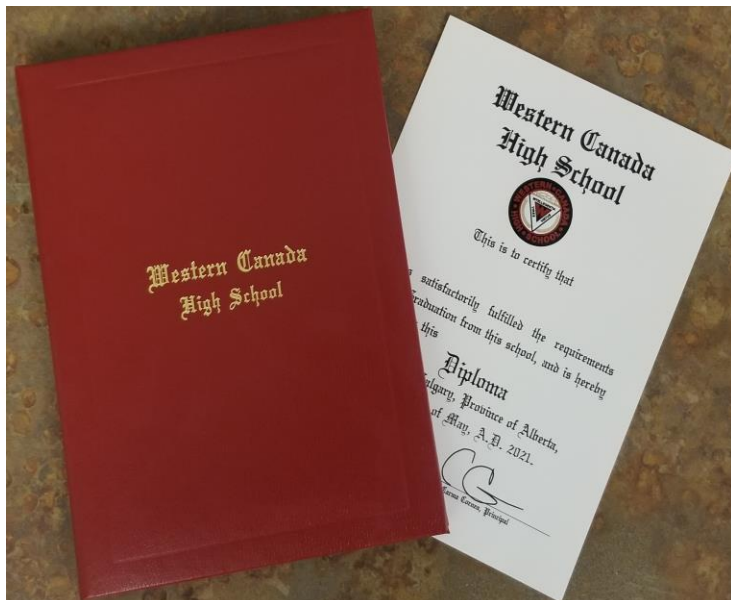
Left side: after your
name is announced.





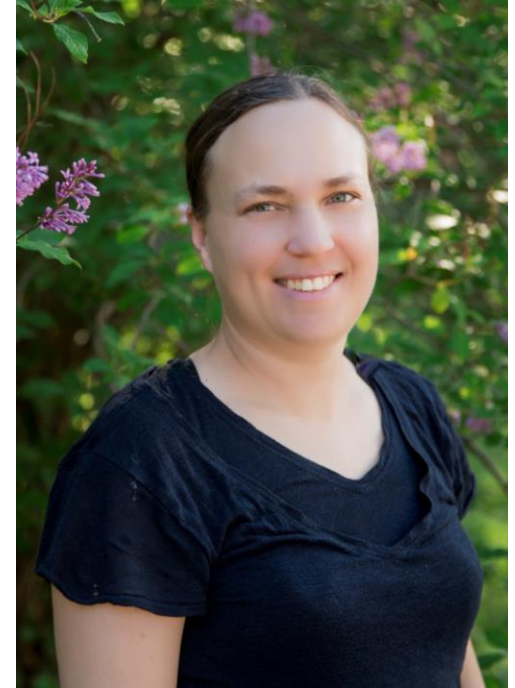
Greet Mr Whitbread

- Put left hand out to receive red portfolio
- Shake hands with right hand
- Continue along the stage (Don't Rush!)



Walk to CBE Guests

Ms. Susan Vukadinovic,
CBE School Trustee



Mr. David Dyck – Director
for Area 7

Shake hands with Trustee
and Mr Dyck with right
hand



What If I'm Uncomfortable with a Handshake?

There are a few options:

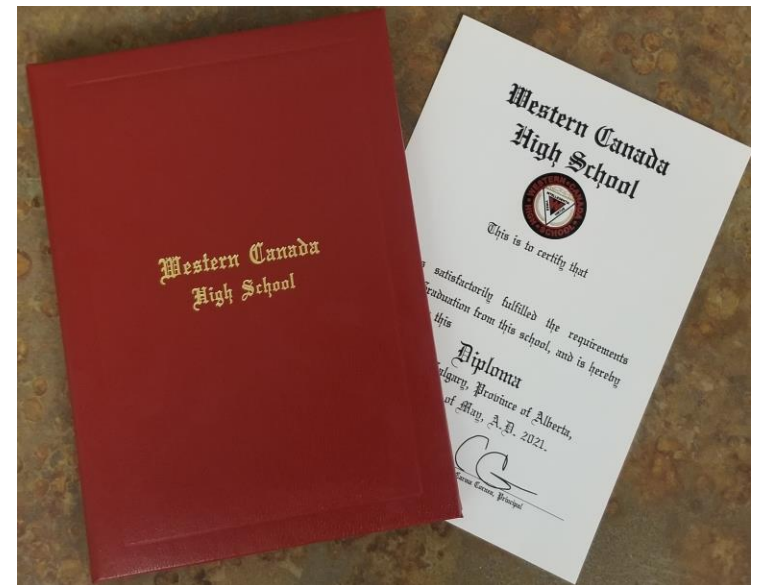
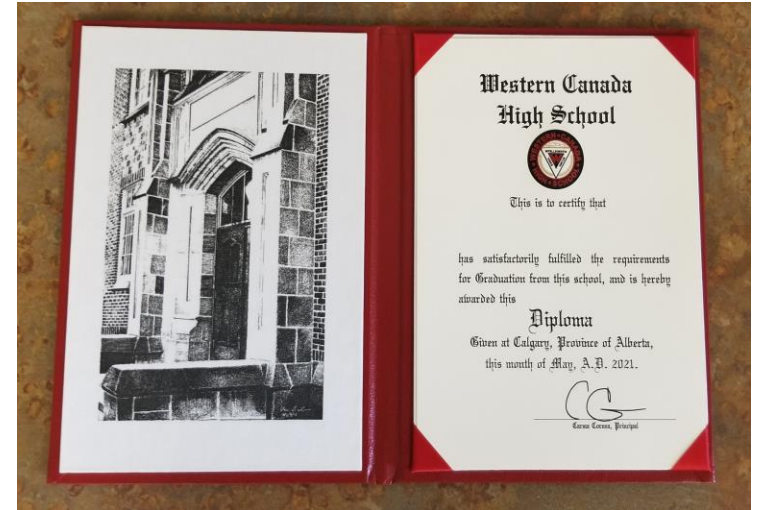


Leaving the Stage

Leave the stage to get
your graduation photo

Pick up personalized
certificate from the
guidance counsellors

You will be guided back
to a seat by the marshals



What should I wear to "walk the stage"?



- *Look your best!*
- **Footwear:** comfortable - flats or low heel, summer sandals. Preference is no runners or flip flops.
- Collared shirt with business casual or dress pant. Tie is optional.
- Summer skirt and blouse, summer dress, or pant suit.
- The gowns keep you warm – seaters and suit jackets not recommended
- *Don't forget your **Grad Gown**, and **hat with tassel** and **Red v-stole**!*
- No political representations (flags, sashes, etc.) - inclusive environment

Exit Processional & Gown Return

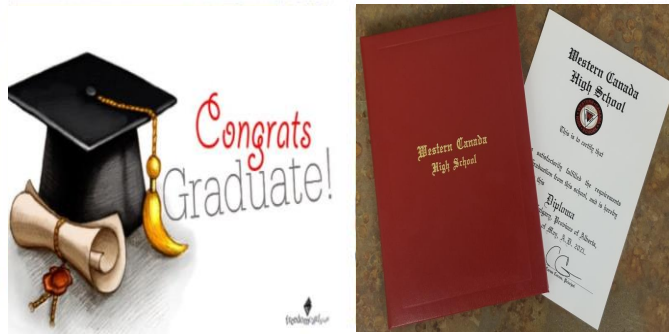
- Marshalls will lead you out of the arena to return your gown before you exit the venue
- There is **not** time to get photos with your guests between the ceremony and gown return



Best Places for Photos in Calgary

- Gowns must be returned immediately after the ceremony, so photos must be taken in advance.
- **Anywhere with your family and friends!**
 - Crescent Heights Hill with downtown in background
 - Peace Bridge
 - Prince's Island Park (downtown)
 - Center Street Bridge
 - Central Library
 - Scotsman's Hill with the Saddledome in background
 - Calgary Zoo or Heritage Park
 - **Western Canada High School!!!!**
 - What spot is on your list?





Project Safe Grad



PROJECT SAFE GRADUATION



Calgary Board
of Education



Questions after the Rehearsal?

Ceremony:

Ms. Scharfenberger (anscharfenberger@cbe.ab.ca)

Banquet:

Mr. Smith (bgsmith@cbe.ab.ca)

General questions:

Ms. Harding (knharding@cbe.ab.ca)



Final Message ([before gowns](#)):

Graduation is a family milestone that can/must/should be celebrated regardless of how you choose to recognize your accomplishment!

Gown, Hat, Tassel, V-Stole: Ms. Adams



The gown and vee stole that you are about to receive are rentals and must be returned immediately after the ceremony.

Please take advantage of opportunities to take pictures in your gown with your family and friends in the week PRIOR to the ceremony on May 22nd.

Gown, Hat, Tassel, V-Stole: Ms. Adams

- If gown and vee stole are damaged or not returned, you will be charged \$127.30 for the gown and \$43.85 for the vee stole.
- The graduation cap is yours to keep as a souvenir. Please do not “bedazzle” before the ceremony – exception: traditional beading.
- Please attach your tassel securely (double winding) before putting on!



Picking Up Your Graduation Gown

- You must present picture ID when picking up your gown and initial that you have picked up your gown.
- Your gown has a barcode and has been assigned to you based on your height.
- ***Please double check that the gown you are receiving has your name on the tag.***

