

Warren Collegiate Institute



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May 4, 2021

Dear Grads, Parents and Guardians,

As we are wrapping up the 2020-2021 school year, we look forward to celebrating your graduation with you. As outlined in our previous letter in February, we are looking at a few options to help celebrate this special moment. Last week Dr. Roussin held a question and answer session with school administrators from across the province. When asked about public health guidelines for grad ceremonies, his response was we should wait until closer to the date. If the government were to outline the public health guidelines for grad ceremonies now, it would be very restrictive. If we wait until closer to June as more and more people are vaccinated, the ceremony could look very different.

At this point we will keep the doors open to three different scenarios. The dates for each of these possible scenarios are listed below. At the beginning of June, we will decide which scenario is possible. Then we will determine the scenario's details to ensure we adhere to public health orders. We have surveyed the grads and the majority of students would like to see the ceremony offered in this order if possible;

- 1) Drive-In Graduation Ceremony: This is a well thought out proposal from our grade twelves. If we are able to host such an event it will be on June 24th at 1:00pm. Our rain date would be June 25th. This would be a rain or shine rain date. Grads suggested one car parked per graduate. Graduates come out of their vehicles and up to a mobile stage (trailer) to accept their diplomas. They had suggested a few different locations for this event. We are presently looking into these locations to see which would be most appropriate.
- 2) Small Group Ceremony in the gym: Graduates are asked to provide a list of up to five graduates with whom they would like to graduate. This list is due by Tuesday, May 11. The number of guests a graduate could invite would be dependent on public health orders. Graduates could invite fellow graduates within their guest allowance. These ceremonies would be held on June 24th and 25th. Times for this possible scenario will be determined by May 17th.
- 3) Individual Ceremony in the gym: Graduates would cross the stage individually with their guests present. The number of guests allowed would be dependent on public health orders at the time. These ceremonies would be held on June 24th and 25th. Times for this possible scenario will be determined by May 17th.

The most unlikely scenario is to have everyone in a ceremony in the gym, with parents and guardians present. In order for this to be possible we need to be allowed to have around 200 people come together. Although this is highly unlikely, if it were to be a possibility we have all of the set up required here at the school and could arrange this with little lead time. This option would take place on June 25th.

Other activities being planned are: Grad lawn signs, grad luncheon and grad porch photos.

Mrs. Schutz and Mrs. Campbell are your teacher reps.

Please note that your grad fee is reduced this year to reflect the limited options. We are asking grads to bring in \$40 to the office by May 21.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Schutz, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Oliver or myself.

Take care,
Mrs. Perrella