

Sardis Secondary School Grad Reference Guide 2023-2024



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Message to Parents

We know you are extremely proud and excited about this BIG year! We strongly encourage you—as parents—to get involved and help out with the Grad Activities. There are many activities where help is needed and input is always appreciated. There will be a virtual **Grad Parent Information Evening Meeting** in the future. Stay tuned for details and please check the school website regularly www.sss.sd33.bc.ca for updates. If you have any questions about a specific event, please contact the Sponsor Teacher for that function.

Sponsor Teachers for Grade 12 Events

Sponsor Teachers are teachers who have volunteered their time to oversee a particular Grad event. If you are interested in helping them please see them directly.

Career Life Connections Coordinator.....	Mrs. Van Winkle
Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards.....	Ms. Christensen
Yearbook Editor.....	Mr. Grenier
Grad Auction.....	Ms. Walsh
Awards, Scholarship and Bursary Ceremony.....	Mrs. Clayton
Commencement Ceremonies	Mrs. Piegsa/Mr. Werner
Grad Banquet and Dance	Mrs. Clayton/Mrs. Lightle
Community Dry Grad.....	Ms. Schramm

Provincial Assessments and Graduation Status

In order to graduate, students must complete a minimum of 80 credits in grades 10, 11 or 12 courses; some courses are required and some are electives (see chart). In addition, **every student graduating must complete Provincial Assessments: Numeracy 10, Literacy 10 and Literacy 12.** Most students did the first 2 in grade 10 or 11 and students will write the Literacy 12 Assessment this year, as well as any other assessments they missed. The four opportunities to write or re-write these assessments are in November, January, April and June. **You cannot graduate without these required assessments.** See your Counsellor or Vice Principal to register if you missed a grade 10 assessment. Students in the French Immersion program are also required to write the Fra1 12 exam in June. See Mr. Hawkenson for more information. If you have questions about your graduation status, please see your counsellor.

Graduation Requirements

At a Glance Requirements - What You Need to Graduate

Subject Area	Minimum Credits
Planning 10 or CLE 10	4
a Language Arts 10	4
a Language Arts 11	4
a Language Arts 12	4
a Mathematics 10	4
a Mathematics 11 or 12	4
a Fine Arts and/or Applied Skills 10, 11 or 12	4
Social Studies 10	4
a Social Studies 11 or Political Studies 12 or BCFP 12 or Hi 12 or Phil 12 or Law 12 or Geog 12 or Social Justice 12	4
Science 10	4
a Science 11 or 12	4
Physical Education 10	4
	48 credits
ELECTIVE COURSES	
Students must earn at least 28 elective credits (12 credits at the grade 12 level in addition to Language Arts 12)	Minimum Credits
Additional Grade 10-12 credits	28
Career Life Connections 12 (CLC) Students must earn 4 credits for Career Life Connections and cannot graduate without it	4
OVERALL TOTAL	80
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 16 must be at the Grade 12 level, including a Grade 12 Language Arts course. Others may be required or elective courses for Post Secondary Institutions (PSIs). ▪ 4 credits must be an Indigenous focused course. ▪ Required to write the Numeracy 10, Literacy 10 and Literacy 12 Assessments. 	

Career Life Connections 12 (CLC) 4 credits

All students must complete CLC 12 in order to graduate.

A final mark will be given for CLC and will appear on your report card and transcript.

Students will complete a number of assignments that will demonstrate their Self Awareness, Ability to work with others, Collaboration and Communication, Career Knowledge and Career Awareness. Students will be given a rubric for how their mark (%) will be earned and a meeting with the CLC Teacher will be completed as the final activity for CLC.

By the end of Term 3, students who have not completed CLC 12 will be removed from the graduation list and will not be able to attend graduation activities until CLC requirements have been met.

Grad Portraits

Grad portraits are separate from the regular school pictures and will be taken by a professional photographer in the Drama room at Sardis Secondary. Book an appointment for portrait sittings in December (at www.signupgenius.com/go/sardis_2023grad_photo_signup.) The link will be on the SSS website. Grad portraits are on display at commencement, the grad composite and in the yearbook. All students must get a free photo taken even if they do not want to purchase a portrait package. Retakes will be taken in the Spring.

Grad Rings

Grad rings can be purchased through Jostens Grad Rings in the common area on October 12th and 13th. Orders may be placed by contacting 604-341-4321 or 1-888-746-4626 or by going to www.jostens.com

Grad Information Meetings

Important information will be provided at Grad Information Meetings held on specific dates during Flex. As well, information and input (survey, grad forms, etc) will be required by Grads through their school district e-mail. This gives Grads the opportunity to have input into the Prom theme (colors, flowers, etc.), and selecting a class Valedictorian. It is important to have your voice heard because this is your Graduation! Make sure you attend the **Grad Info Meetings**.

BC Post-Secondary Institution (PSI) Information Nights

Check out <https://www.postsecondarybc.ca/events/> for schools and programs of interest to you! PSI Information Fairs are a great way to be informed about various post-secondary institutions. Virtual information is available for specific schools and programs from September through to May. Browse through the events at the website above to see which events interest you and then schedule them in your calendar to join in on that date. It is impossible to visit all of these institutions in person, so this is a fabulous opportunity to learn about the institutions and programs online. Check out the virtual fairs to find out what is available across the province for post-secondary! Follow **sss_careers** for important dates or e-mail lori_christensen@sd33.bc.ca for information.

Scholarships and Post-Secondary Information Nights

Unlock Your Future– The Key to Scholarships – Tuesday, September 26th 6:30-8:00 PM

An online information session about how to access bursaries and scholarships, providing parents and students with information about the process of applying for money to assist with post-secondary costs. Brittany Palmer will be doing a virtual presentation on **Tuesday, September 26th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm** for all parents and students interested.

Post Secondary School Information Session Night – Wednesday, October 25th 6:00 PM

At SSS on Wednesday, October 25th at 6:00 pm is another evening presentation for parents to learn how to assist their children in navigating careers and post-secondary. This evening will host representatives from several post-secondary institutions from around BC. The format will include presentations and a gallery of information tables.

Scholarship and Bursary Applications

Information for applying for bursaries and scholarships will be available in the late fall. Students are encouraged to apply for as many as they can. It is important to pay attention to the due dates as applications cannot be accepted past the due dates. Organizations want to give money away to deserving students, BUT you must apply. You can start the process earlier by gathering 2-3 reference letters. All scholarships, bursaries and awards will be formally presented at the Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships Evening. See Mrs. Christenson if you have questions or if you need support.

Post-Secondary Application and PSI Choices Form

The Ministry of Education will send your transcripts for free (up to 25) to a post-secondary institution (PSI) of your choice once final marks are complete in June. To direct the sending of your transcripts, you must complete a form online at www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca. Complete this form in September and choose up to 25 institutions you are interested in attending.

Students should start applying to Post Secondary Institutions in September. Check to see the application dates for the programs and institutions that interest you, as they may differ and you

want to apply as soon as you can. Immediately after applying to PSIs, release your transcripts online to the universities (any that you think you may want to attend) at www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca.

Graduation Events

Auction, Cruise, Commencement, Banquet & Dance, Dry Grad Expectations

At grad events, school administration has a responsibility to ensure that all guests in attendance will conduct themselves appropriately, be respectful to all other graduates and guests, and comply with requests/follow direction from school staff.

- All guests to the Grad Cruise, Prom and Dry Grad must be a secondary student (gr. 10-12) from the Chilliwack School District
- All guests to the Grad Cruise, Prom and Dry Grad will be required to have a character reference from an SD#33 school principal or vice-principal (Guest Approval forms are available at the office)
- For all formal grad functions, transportation will be provided by the School District, and students must use the provided transportation departing from SSS
- At the end of Term 3, you **MUST** be in a position to complete the course requirements necessary to graduate by June 2024. If you are not in a position to graduate, you are **NOT** eligible to participate in the Commencement ceremonies, Grad Prom, and Dry Grad.

NOTE: All school rules apply and these events are free of drugs and alcohol. Students who come to these events **suspected to be, or under the influence of, or in possession of drugs or alcohol will not be admitted**. If it becomes apparent that a student is under the influence, he/she will be directed to leave. There will be no refunds.

Grad Auction

The Grad Auction is an evening of delicious food and wonderful items available for bidding on **Thursday, February 22 beginning at 5:00 pm**. Historically, the Grad Auction has been an opportunity to bring the Sardis community together to raise funds for both the grads and the Grad Legacy Fund. Please encourage your friends, family members and members of the community to attend. Tickets for the dinner are very reasonable for the meal provided!

Grade 12 students are asked to bring in business and community donations in the form of product or gift certificates prior to the event. 50% of the value of the auctioned donation will go directly into the student's grad account. The remainder of the funds raised goes towards reducing graduation event costs and supporting student scholarships for our Grad Legacy Fund.

Grad Cruise

The Grad Cruise will take place on **Thursday, April 25th**. The cruise takes guests from near the Vancouver Convention Centre around Stanley Park to False Creek. A meal, dessert and all you can drink soda is included in the cost. The boat has several decks, a DJ and a dance floor. The busses depart from SSS at 4:30 and the cruise is from 7:00-10:00 pm.

Commencement Ceremony

Grad Commencement is a formal ceremony held at the Chilliwack Coliseum on **Thursday, June 13, 2024 starting at 6:00 pm**. Students should arrive around 5:00 pm. **Students must meet back stage by 5:30 pm to line up in the processional!**

Grads should come to the ceremony already dressed in the grad gown with dress clothes underneath and they should wear shoes that can easily navigate the stairs in dim lit settings. Gowns must be worn throughout the ceremony. Students keep their gowns, hats and stoles.

If Grads want to take pictures at the coliseum, arrive early and take the pictures with family and friends before the ceremony.

Student and audience behavior is expected to be consistent with a formal ceremony of this type. (no noise makers, socializing during ceremony, leaving for pictures or visiting, etc.) Inappropriate behavior diminishes the quality of the ceremony for everyone.

Students must remain in their seats in gown and cap once commencement starts, and remain until the processional leaves at the end of the ceremony.

Grad Gowns

Grad Gown packages are distributed in the PIT on **Tuesday, June 11th at 2:45 pm**.

Commencement Rehearsal

The commencement rehearsal is on **Thursday, June 13th from 9:00-11:00 am** at the Chilliwack Coliseum (the morning of Commencement).

Grads will report to their first class for attendance and then they will board the busses at 8:45 am which will take them to and from the coliseum. Grads are not to drive their own vehicles to the Coliseum. No exceptions! Afterwards, Grads will be bussed back to SSS for lunch (provided) and then they are dismissed for the day. There will be no afternoon classes for grade 12s.

Commencement Information Form

This form will be completed in the Grad Information Meeting in January. It is also available on the school website. This form indicates the correct spelling of your name, your graduation gown size and a brief statement that will be read as you cross the stage. Hand the form into the office once completed by **the end of January**.

Commencement Tickets

Graduates will receive 4 free tickets for commencement. Tickets are picked up from the office **starting June 5th**. Up to four additional tickets may be requested via email between **February 1– April 30**. After April 30th, you will be put on the waitlist and distribution will be limited to availability. Additional tickets cost \$7 per ticket and payment must be made at the time of pickup. All guests must have a ticket to be admitted to commencement.

Graduation Fee

The Graduation fee of \$100.00 covers the cost of Commencement including the grad gown, cap, tassel, stole, memento 5x7 grad photo, diploma, facility rental and decorations.

Grad Banquet and Dance (Prom)

Prom is a formal event at the Clarion Hotel on **Wednesday, June 26th from 5:00-10:30 pm**. At this event, students dress up and spend a memorable evening together. There is a gourmet buffet dinner and dessert, an Ice-Cream Bar, a brief formal program and then Grads dance the night away. Students purchase tickets online between **April 1 - May 31**. To reserve a table (seating for 10 per table), you go online and submit your names. Prom tickets are picked up at the same time as commencement tickets in the office.

Community Dry Grad

Dry Grad is following the Banquet and Dance on **Wednesday, June 26th from 11:00 pm to 5:00 am** at the Landing Leisure Centre. Once the Banquet and Dance is over, the night is just beginning! There are plenty of fun things to do including casino games, prizes, character artists, games, music, inflatables, and non-stop food and drinks. Grads should wear comfortable clothing and shoes as this is an activity packed event. Tickets available online from **April 1 – May 31**.

Guest Application for Grad Events

Grads **may apply** to bring a guest to grad events (Grad Cruise, Grad Banquet and Dance, Dry Grad) however, the number of guests depends on space available. These are school events, and therefore the school reserves the right to deny guest applications. **All guests must be a secondary student (gr. 10-12) from the Chilliwack School District and will require a character reference from an SD#33 school principal or vice-principal.** Guest applications will be available online beginning in April 2024. Guest applications for prom must be returned by the beginning of June.

Grad Information Meetings

There will be a series of **Grad Information Meetings** that inform the students of important dates and information regarding grad events. The Grad Information Meetings are on the following dates: **September 5, November 16, January 11 and April 11**



IMPORTANT GRAD DATES for SSS 2023 24 Grads

SEPTEMBER	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read through the Grad Reference Guide <input type="checkbox"/> Start applying to Post-Secondary Institutions for Sept. 2024: www.educationplannerbc.ca <input type="checkbox"/> Apply to send your transcripts to post-secondary institutions: www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca <input type="checkbox"/> Check your graduation status with your counsellor if you are unsure after reviewing your transcript <input type="checkbox"/> Check out the BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Session Schedule at https://www.postsecondarybc.ca/events/ and sign up for any that interest you.
5	Grad Information Meeting in the gym
14	Grad Parent Meeting on Zoom 7:00-8:00pm
26	<i>Unlock your Future– The Key to Scholarships</i> Zoom Presentation at 6:30 pm
Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
OCTOBER	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ask for references from 2-3 people for scholarship/bursary applications <input type="checkbox"/> Attend the SSS Post-Secondary Information Night <input type="checkbox"/> Work on CLC 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Order Grad clothing <input type="checkbox"/> Check out all of the financial awards available to Sardis Secondary Students: https://sss.sd33.bc.ca/scholarships-and-post-secondary-planning
12, 13	Grad rings on sale outside office
25	Post-Secondary Information Night at SSS 6:00-8:15 pm
Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
NOVEMBER	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Start your scholarship/bursary application folder by gathering reference letters and completing a resume which reflects school and community involvement <input type="checkbox"/> Check out the Sardis Scholarship and Bursary Application website: https://sardissecondary.sd33.bc.ca/financial-awards-sardis <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a Scholarship/Bursary Application meeting during Flex <input type="checkbox"/> Work on CLC 12
1	Scholarship and Bursary website fully updated for 2024 https://sardissecondary.sd33.bc.ca/financial-awards-sardis
16	Grad Information Meeting during Flex in the gym
TBD	Scholarship Meetings in Flex
Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
DECEMBER	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Get your Scholarship/Bursary Package and start completing it <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a Scholarship/Bursary Application meeting during Flex <input type="checkbox"/> Gather donations for the Grad Dinner Auction <input type="checkbox"/> Work on CLC 12

Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
JANUARY	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Work on scholarship and bursary applications <input type="checkbox"/> Gather donations for the Grad Dinner Auction <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the Commencement Information Form and hand it in to the office or online. <input type="checkbox"/> Sit for grad photos <input type="checkbox"/> Work on CLC 12
11	Grad Information Meeting (Scholarships/Bursaries, Commencement Data Forms)
22-25	Provincial Assessment Literacy 12
25	End of semester one
30, 31	Grad photos
31	Commencement Information Form due at the office
Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
FEBRUARY	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sit for grad photos <input type="checkbox"/> Complete scholarship and bursary applications <input type="checkbox"/> Gather donations for the Grad Dinner Auction <input type="checkbox"/> Submit scholarship and bursary applications <input type="checkbox"/> Work on CLC 12
1	Additional Commencement tickets available via Student Quickpay (up to 4 extra for \$7 each)
1-8	Grad photos
8	Internal Awards due online (Group 1)
22	External Awards due online (Group 2)
22	Grad Dinner Auction
Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
MARCH	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete CLC 12 Capstone Project and submit <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase Grad Cruise tickets <input type="checkbox"/> Order grad clothing
1	Grad Cruise tickets available on Student Quickpay
7,8	Grad photo re-takes
14	CLC 12 Capstone Project Due
Various evenings	BC Post-Secondary Institutions Virtual Information Sessions, Tours, Webinars, Open Houses
APRIL	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase Banquet & Dance and Dry Grad tickets online <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve a table for the Banquet and Dance for 10 people <input type="checkbox"/> Complete and submit an application for the Dogwood District Authority Awards <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase additional Commencement tickets online if needed (all Grads have 4 already)
1	Grad Cruise Guest Applications available until April 15 th

1	Banquet & Dance and Dry Grad Tickets available on Student Quickpay until end of May
1	Reserve online a table for 10 at the Banquet and Dance; buy tickets and then list friends for table of 10.
11	Dogwood District Authority Award Applications Due
11	Grad Information Meeting (Valedictorian and upcoming Grad events)
19	Last day of Term 3
25	Grad Cruise; Busses leave at 4:30 pm and return at midnight.
30	Last day to request additional commencement tickets
MAY	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Check to see if you are receiving an award for Academics, Citizenship or Service (your name will be on the lists posted outside the library) <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure you have purchased your Banquet & Dance and Dry Grad tickets if you plan on attending these events. <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve your table if you want to sit with your friends at Prom
1	Last day to order Grad clothing
28,29	Invitations for Awards, Scholarships and Bursaries Night handed out after school
30	Awards breakfast during Flex (Academics, Citizenship, Service)
31	Last day to purchase Banquet & Dance and Dry Grad tickets and to submit Guest Application Forms
JUNE	<p>TO DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Get your Grad events tickets from the office <input type="checkbox"/> Finish the year strong! <input type="checkbox"/> Safely celebrate finishing high school!
4	Scholarship & Awards Night at SSS 6:00 pm
5	Pick up Commencement, Banquet & Dance and Dry Grad tickets at the office
11	Pick up Grad gowns after school in the Pit
13	Commencement rehearsal and lunch 8:45 am – noon; go to first class
13	Commencement at the Coliseum 6:00 pm; Grads arrive at 5:00 pm and meet backstage at 5:30 pm
20, 21	Provincial Assessment Literacy 12
25	Last day of classes
26	Grad Banquet & Dance at Clarion in Abbotsford; busses leave SSS at 4:00 pm and return every 30 minutes from 8:00 pm onwards.
26	Dry Grad at the Landing Leisure Centre 11:00 pm – 5:00 am
28	Report cards available

