

Policy 09–01: Graduation

1. Commencement

1.1 Policy - Commencement

Graduation traditionally occurs on the first Saturday after school has ended for the year. The commencement is a public event but reserved seating is made available for guests and family members of the graduates. This part of the celebration is planned and supervised by a member of staff (Grad Advisor).

1.1 Procedure - Commencement

- I. Only those students who are enrolled in Grade 12 English or Communications or have completed one of these courses will be considered a Grade 12 student.
- II. All students in the Grade 12 class may participate in all aspects of the graduation weekend, regardless of their graduation status.
- III. During the cap and gown ceremony, students who are on track to meeting their graduation requirements along with students receiving a leaving certificate from the school will be provided with a stole (V neckpiece) and will physically move the tassel on their graduation caps from right to left.
- IV. Wearing a stole is restricted to those students who have, by April 1, provided evidence that they will be completing sufficient courses to graduate and have completed 65 % of their current remaining course load and 75 % by May 1st.
- V. Students who wear a stole at the graduation ceremony will be the students that have their pictures placed on the wall for that year.
- VI. Any students who return or complete required graduation courses in another year will have their photo placed on the wall that year. Where it is obvious (attendance, marks, etc) that a student will not successfully complete the required courses to graduate, he/she is able to participate in the ceremony but not wear the stole.
- VII. Students may only go through Robert Service School graduation ceremony once.
- VIII. Students who are not currently registered at Robert Service School but have participated in Robert Service high school (grade 9 and up) for a minimum of one year may participate in the graduation ceremony.

2. Banquet/Dance

2.1 Procedure – Banquet/Dance (Evening)

- I. This banquet and/or dance is organized by the students, with the help of their grad advisor.
- II. It is to take place on the evening of the commencement. It is an evening for

- III. Grade 12 students and their invited guests.
- IV. If a student who has not completed the required courses for graduation and chooses to not participate in the commencement ceremony may still participate in the banquet. There is no obligation for the grad class to invite staff; there is no obligation for staff to attend.
- V. All concerned should realize that this occasion is a private celebration for grads and their families
- VI. The Graduation Class Committee for the year will determine the format and method of financing the banquet and/or dance, and as such will be the only recognized body to do so.