



MARK R. ISFELD SECONDARY SCHOOL
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February 8, 2012

Grad Newsletter #2

Dear Grads, Parents / Guardians,

Now that we have started in on Semester 2 it is time to focus our attention on Grad related activities. Please familiarize yourself with the information below and contact me if further clarification is needed.

We had a lengthy meeting with Grads today and covered a multitude of topics. Please talk to them about the meeting to make sure you are aware of what is going on.

Bill Village

bill.village@sd71.bc.ca

1. Grad Date – a reminder that the date selected for the Graduation Ceremony and After-Grad is **Wednesday, June 27th**. The Car Parade will leave Driftwood Mall at approximately 3:15 P.M. and the Grad Ceremony will start at 5:30 P.M.
2. Participating in Grad – a reminder that the school policy is that only students who are in a position to graduate at the end of June are allowed to participate in the Ceremony. We have a number of students who are presently in a non-grad position and we hope they are working hard to recover from their present status. Each of these students have had letters sent home with information of what, specifically, needs to be taken care to get back on the grad list. The vast majority of our students are on track to grad and we hope they keep their “eye on the prize” and make their last semester at Isfeld one that they can be proud of.
3. Grad Transitions Plan – This is a required 4 credits that students must complete. Students have been notified by their Teacher Advisor or Counsellor about what parts of the Plan they still need to complete. The deadline for completion of GTP is March 16th. Information is available on the school website and help is available from the Work Experience Office and Counsellors during X-Block and at any other time if they are available.
4. Grad Fees – a review of expected costs has led to the conclusion that the Grad Fees for this year will remain at \$125. We will be putting a focus on paying the fees during the last two weeks of March. Students/parents can now take care of these fees by payment through Alannah MacIntyre in the office. The deadline for payment of the fees is May 31st and soon after tickets for Grad will be distributed. Before tickets will be issued for the Ceremony, students must have their account cleared up with the school including student fees, Library fines, etc.
5. Ford “Test Drive” Fund Raiser - we have just secured a date for this fund-raiser that proved very popular last year. Students can pay off a significant portion of their Grad fees by taking part in this fund-raiser. The date of this event is Sunday, March 25th. Please put it on your calendar. More information will follow soon.
6. Bursary Information/ Financial Aid – A Bursary application meeting is taking place Friday during X-Block. Ms. Clement will meet with students from House 1 in Room 100 and students in House 2 will meet with

Ms. Long in Room 400. Students can now have access to information regarding applying for local bursaries plus other information with respect to financial aid for post secondary. Students and parents can access the information on the school's website or purchase the information booklet for \$2.00 from the Main Office. Counsellors will continue to support students with their applications and help will also be available during X-Block time. Students needing transcripts should see their counsellor.

7. Post Secondary Information and Deadlines – this is an important time of year for students to be checking college and university websites so they are aware of application deadlines. Students are also reminded that North Island College has a counsellor visiting the school on a monthly basis and they should make an appointment in Student Services if interested. A UVIC advisor will be at the school in the afternoon of Wednesday, February 15th.
8. Isfeld Grad Dine and Dance – both the Parents' and Students' Grad Committees are working hard with preparations for the next Grad event which is set for Thursday, March 15th. More detailed information will follow but it is important to get this date on your social calendar. The event is just for Grads and their parents/guardians. An important item needed for this evening is a **baby or toddler picture** that will be used as part of a slide show that evening. Parents are asked to take care of this right away so this can be incorporated as a surprise into the evening's entertainment. You can scan and e-mail the picture to brenda.hunt@sd71.bc.ca or turn the picture in to the Main Office (please ensure their name and T.A. is written on the back of the picture). The pictures will be returned as soon as they are all scanned into the computer and the slide show is completed. The deadline for getting these pictures in is Friday ,Feb. 24th.
9. Cynderella and Prince Charming Project – Graduation can be a stressful time for many students and their families. This program was started years ago to assist if families need help in getting a dress or tuxedo and accessories for this important event. Many donations and sponsors in the community have helped to ensure a large collection of grad gowns, suits and accessories are available to those that could use some help. Students can be referred to this program through the Principal or school Counsellors. All referrals are confidential.
10. Relay for Life – Our Grad class will be participating in this wonderful fund-raising event for the Canadian Cancer Society. The event takes place Saturday, June 23rd. The students began forming teams today and we hope to have a significant portion of the Grad class participate in this activity.
11. Parent Meeting – there will be a very important meeting for Grad Parents on Tuesday, March 6th at 7:00 P.M. in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please put this on your calendar.
12. Upcoming Events/ Important Dates –
 - a) Friday, Feb. 10th – deadline date for Relay For Life team registration
 - b) Wednesday, Feb. 22nd – meeting with parents and students involved in the Relay for Life
 - c) Tuesday, March 6th – Grad Parent Meeting at 7:00 P.M. in the MPR
 - d) Thursday, March 15th – Isfeld Grad Dine and Dance at the Florence Filberg Centre (6:00 P.M.)
 - e) Friday, March 16th – Deadline for completion of Graduation Transitions
 - e) Sunday, March 25th – Ford Test Drive Event (10 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.) Bus loop area.
 - f) Friday, March 29th – Bursary Application Deadline
 - g) Monday, June 4th – Bursary Reception Evening
 - h) Tuesday, June 19th – Grad Rehearsal
 - i) Wednesday, June 27th – Grad Ceremony beginning at 5:30 P.M.