

2023 GRAD YEAR INFORMATION

This letter is intended to give you information regarding the time, place and cost of the major functions for the Grade 12's in 2023. **Any events other than those listed below are NOT SANCTIONED by the school, and we advise you to use extreme caution in allowing your child to attend.** Please be aware that your child must be in a mathematical position to graduate in terms of graduation credits in order to participate in year end graduation events.

SCHOOL SANCTIONED EVENTS

Grad Wear

RSS Grad Hoodies will be available for purchase in four rounds (available in classic black or white, and a third color to be announced in October). Hoodies are \$50.00 each. In order to purchase and select an appropriate size, Grads must pay for the hoodie online by going to the following link (<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com/>).

ORDERS NOT PAID BEFORE THE ORDER DEADLINE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY

	Order Deadline	Estimated Delivery
Round One	October 7th	Week of November 1
Round Two	November 18th	Week of December 12th
Round Three	February 3rd	Week of February 20th
Final Round *NO ORDERS AFTER CUT-OFF*	March 17th	Week of April 11th

Grad Photos

November 2nd – November 24th

You will see a link in the 2023 Google Classroom, the 2023 Grad page and posted on the school website. Please book a time as soon as possible-- there ARE enough time slots available for all grads to be photographed but students that wait until the last minute to schedule a sitting time may find that the dates and times are limited. There is a \$60 **REFUNDABLE** deposit at the time of sitting with no obligation to purchase. Should you opt not to order, you can request to have the deposit refunded; for those ordering, the deposit will apply to your order. **In order for Grads to be included in the Yearbook and the Composite Photo, students must have a picture taken by Artona.**

Yearbook

Yearbooks are \$40, so buy them now! All students pre-ordering a yearbook will be accommodated, but only a VERY LIMITED number are available for purchase in June. Avoid disappointment by ordering now!

Crystal Ball (Winter Semi-Formal)

Thursday December 8th, 2022

Prom and Grad Walk

Weekend of May 26–28th, 2023

We are currently working with community partners to arrange bookings and will release the date ASAP.

Parents of Grads: The Prom is now a parent organized, school-sponsored event. In hosting and fundraising for an event of this magnitude organizational meetings, fundraisers, and volunteer opportunities will arise that require Grad parent support. If you are interested in joining this committee please email: rutlandgrad23@gmail.com and/or provide your information at the Grade 12 Information Night. Once a parent group is established their preferred method of contact will be shared.

**Please be aware that the email above is intended for Grad correspondence only and is monitored by one of the RSS Grad Sponsors and Administrator*

Commencement Ceremonies

Friday June 23, 2023

Information Distribution

We use a number of electronic methods to distribute information to Grads and their families. In order to make sure that you know important timelines and dates and, as well, that you receive updates on upcoming scholarship and bursary applications we recommend that:

1. Your **GRAD** is enrolled in the Grad Google Classroom. The enrollment code is:
figi2b4
Please encourage your Grad to “allow notifications” so that important information is not missed.
*Due to classroom permissions, only students may sign-up for the Google Classroom
2. Confirm with the school office that your phone number(s) and e-mail addresses on file are correct. Grade 12 parents will be emailed and/or texted when particularly important and/or time sensitive items arise.
3. Follow @rutlandgrad on Instagram!
4. A Grad Website is in development. Follow the link provided on the school website or go to:

<https://sites.google.com/learn.sd23.bc.ca/rssgrad2023>

GRAD FEES

There are considerable costs associated with events being organized by RSS for student participation. These fees go to, but are not limited to:

- Gown purchase and shipping
- Printing of invitations, tickets, programs
- Decorations, flowers for ceremonies
- Transportation of grads to ceremonies
- Award photos and awards
- Miscellaneous expenses during the year for grad activities (advertising, thank yous, etc.)
- AV equipment rental and security
- Graduation caps and tassels
- Rental of outside facilities (e.g. City of Kelowna Boardwalk) and audiovisual production costs
- Music expenses, decorations and miscellaneous costs for Crystal Ball

Refund on Fees

We expect that all students who have the potential to graduate will participate in the Grad Ceremonies. Once grad gown orders are placed (mid-April) and because of the expenses incurred related to that event, there will be **No Grad Fee Refund after the grad gown order deadline.**

Once a student participates in a school sanctioned grad event – a refund will NOT be issued.

- Please note that the school does not make any money by charging these fees. These fees are for the purchase of supplies directly related to celebrating our Grads and/or rental of outside facilities.

I am sure you can appreciate the restrictions that COVID 19 created in most of what we do. In the spring of 2020 we were forced to make significant changes to our past practices for our traditional Grad events including the Prom and Grad Ceremonies. Student feedback was used to design and guide this work resulting in RSS being able to provide a meaningful, thoughtful celebration that our students and their families appreciated. As we “reset” and reestablish how we celebrate our Grads, our first priority remains the safety of our students and staff. We have learned to provide these Grad events for our students in different ways than we had prior to the pandemic. Much of what we have learned has changed some of these experiences and improved these events for our families.

Hopefully this letter will be useful to you. We look forward to a great year for all of our grade 12 students. If you have any further questions please the contact the RSS Grad Sponsors (Ms. Harvie and Mr. Werry) by e-mail (rutlandgrad23@gmail.com)

Sincerely yours,
Hugh Alexander, Principal
Rutland Senior Secondary