

Grad Handbook

2022-23



Message to Parents

This is an exciting year for both you and your graduate. We encourage you as parents to get involved and help out with this year's Grad activities. There are lots of places to help both upfront and behind the scenes and your insight is always welcome.

Grad Updates

Emails: **Please make sure we have your correct email on file.** If you have not received an email from the school then we do not have it. Please contact rita.fussi@abbyschools.ca to update it.

Website: Check the "Grad Tab" on our website: www.robertbateman.abbyschools.ca

Instagram: @robertbatemansecondary

Google Classroom Code: 2ltgjyk

Grad Parent Meetings (students are welcome)

Throughout the year, we host a couple of Grad Parent meetings to discuss grad requirements, expectations, ways parents can get involved and more. We look forward to seeing you on

September 22nd 7-8PM Learning Commons

Scholarship Night

The Bateman Counsellors will host a Scholarship Information night. This is open to parents and grads looking to learn more about scholarship opportunities available to them. Details will be shared on our website and on the Grad Google Classroom when they are confirmed.

Post-Secondary Night

Interested in a number of different post-secondary universities, colleges, and training institutes? Why not check up on each school and their advisors in one night???? Post-Secondary Night is your chance to meet all the college and university reps from around the province and nation all in one building, all in one night. Details will be shared on our website and on the Grad Google Classroom when they are confirmed.

Grad Expectations

We expect our grad class to be leaders in the school / community and set good examples with the choices they make. Grade 12 students who choose, in their final year, to attend school or school events having consumed drugs or alcohol may not be allowed to take part in school-based grad activities including the Grad Dinner and Dance (Prom).

Grad Council

The Grad Council for the 2022-23 School Year is a group of individuals who will be the voice of the RBSS Grad Class of 2023. Your 2022-23 Grad Council members are: Gideon Akuffo, Andrew Cullen, Shayla Grewal, Ferlyn Hamtig, Jayda Janes, Vicky Kim, Alicia Lee, Sage Singh, and Nolan Watrin. The Grad Council will be responsible for the following:

- Meeting regularly to plan and organize with RBSS Admin & Counsellors
- Work with teacher sponsors to plan each grad event(s)
- Communicating to grad class regarding events
- Working with the community to coordinate events
- Represent their peers to the school and administration

Assemblies & Forms

Throughout the year there will be a number of grad assemblies where students will be given information towards graduation including PSI, transcript verification, post-secondary choice and Abbotsford Foundation Awards booklet and more– so listen to announcements, watch the TV screens, check the website, follow our Instagram, join the Google Classroom!!

Grad Sponsors

Grad Coordinator – Mr. Travis Bell

Grad Council – Mr. Travis Bell/Mrs. Jennifer Crockett / Mrs. Danae Hodgins

Grad Cruise – Mr. Travis Bell

Grad Dinner and Dance – Ms. Jackie Selzer & Admin

Grad Ceremonies – Counsellors & Admin Team

Grad Photos

Grad photos are separate from the regular school photos and will occur **October 17-24th** in the afternoon & evening (after classes). Students can sign-up for a sitting starting in early October ONLINE. Students who want only a photo to appear in the yearbook and do not want proofs etc do not have to pay the sitting fee. All grads **must** have their photo taken by the **Vibrant Photos for inclusion in the yearbook, grad composite and grad convocation Powerpoint**. Retakes will be available **December 14th** for those students missed the original session or who received photos, which they were not satisfied with.

Grad Rings

Grad rings are available for purchase from Jostens in the fall. They will set up a booth at the school and announcements will be made.

Grad Yearbook Message/ Baby Photos

Grads, you will be able to leave a message beside your grad photo in the yearbook. In addition, you may also email a scanned baby photo too. The deadline to submit your message and baby photo is:

Dec 16th

Guidelines for yearbook Write ups

- Emailed to batemanyearbook@gmail.com
- 50 words maximum
- Typed, edited and emailed
- School appropriate
- Please scan and email your baby picture as well
- Questions? Contact our Yearbook Coordinator: Claire.Apostolopoulos@abbyschools.ca

The grade 12 grad write-ups are read and approved by the Bateman staff before they are placed in the school yearbook. In order to avoid disappointment, by having your write-up altered and/or refused, please adhere to the following rule:

Anything that alludes or might be seen to allude to

drugs, alcohol, and/or other issues that are in opposition to the student code of conduct at RBSS will be edited and/or refused.

Remember the school yearbook is read by parents, grandparents, community members, teachers and is more than just a student publication. Stuck? Don't know what to write? Here are some tips and examples that might help you

Tip#1 A yearbook is a memento and while you might know who JB is in 2016 you may be mystified by a write up like the one on the left when you read it in 2034. On the other hand the one on the right uses abbreviations, which still gets you more words but you will understand it when you re-read it before attending your ten year reunion.

Wow! We're finally here. Thanks to all my teachers who helped me especially Mr. Smith who made calculus bearable and thanks to my family for all heir support. To all the grads: Choose the best path that will lead to greatness. The world awaits us.

Wnoa...it's already over. Had a blast in the last 5. I wanna give special thx 2 my family who were there4me. Anf my buds U know who UR. Thank you Bball guys for 3 yrs of fun. Finally wereouttahere. Catch y'all in ten. Live hard.

"what separates junk from treasure is Imagination"
good luck to whoever needs it. Thanks to everyone for all the help and support over the years. May the force BE with U... always. Work is for people who can't fish – Good Luck

It seems that the inevitability of growing up has happened overnite. They call these times the best times; I wish it didn't have to end here! Thx to my team, my coach Mr. Cliff. And to my family who kept me goinq.

The yearbook staff and students want you to be happy with your write-up. Two ways you can help us help you is to:

1. Follow the guidelines suggested
2. Give us your write up sooner rather than later – (if you give it to us on the week we have to send the pages to the printer and if changes need to be made to your write-up we may have to do so without your approval.

Fees – all fees to be paid online

<https://abbotsford.schoolcashionline.com/>

The grad fee is \$60 and must be paid before you pick up your gown. which covers the cost of the ceremonies. All other grad activities are optional and must be paid using our online system. Please sign up to use cashonline, link is above.

Grad Financial Aid

The Grad Council has undertaken a number of fundraising endeavors to pay for students who are experiencing financial hardship. Unfortunately, the Grad Council will NOT pay optional grad activities. The Grad Council will use their fundraising to pay for students who cannot afford to pay for Grad Ceremonies (walking the stage). While there are no hard and fast rules for asking for financial aid, the school will consider all requests with the following guidelines: income assistance, temporary hardship, loss of employment, or use of other programs including school meals etc. Requests should be made to Mr. Bell. Requests made after this date will not be considered. We realize the grad year is expensive, if you need to make grad payments in installments please contact Karen in the office.

Optional Grad Activities/ Cost (all costs subject to change)

Grad Cruise	\$90
Grad Lock-in	\$90
Grad BBQ/yearbook signing	free
Prom Ticket	\$155
Prom Guest (Date) Ticket	\$155

Grad Clothing

Grad clothing will be made available for purchase in September. Link will be on the Grad website!

Grad Cruise

Come on board as we cruise around the Vancouver harbour taking in the sights of the Fraser Inlet / False Creek, North Shore and more on Spirit Cruises. Ticket price includes bus ride

to/from, boat rental, dinner, dessert, unlimited beverages, dancing, and sight-seeing. Enjoy your first Grad activity together as a class.

September 15th. Bus departs RBSS at 4:30 PM. Cruise will occur from 6:30-9:30, and bus will return at approximately 10:30PM.

Grad Lock-In

This is a parent run event. There are plenty of fun things to do including casino games, entertainment, prizes and more with unlimited food and beverages and a few surprises. Grads should bring comfortable clothes. Students are NOT required to bring any money or pay for anything during the evening. Bags will be searched upon arrival at the school. There are no in/out privileges. Students who need to leave early must inform an administrator **before** and have their parent contact the administrator.

Tickets available online – purchase by April 14th, 2023

Date & Time: **April 28th, 2023** Cost: 90.00

Grad BBQ and yearbook signing

This is a fun, low cost lunch event at the school!

Date: TBA

Grad Convocation

The Ceremony

If you have completed the requirements necessary to graduate, you will be participating in the Grad Ceremony. Students may participate in the graduation ceremonies only if they are taking a course of studies that satisfies the provincial graduation requirements by May 1st. Students enrolled in courses outside of Bateman that are required for graduation must be 80% complete in order to be eligible to take part in the ceremony. If you are not sure if you have completed the requirements, please see your counselor. In addition, all students meeting the required number of course credits to graduate students must be in good standing in their current courses. This includes the completion of grad transition and work experience booklets. Grad fee of \$60-- please pay online.

Date/ Time: Monday, June 26th, 2023 11AM at Abbotsford Entertainment Centre

Grad Valedictorian/ Class Representative

The Valedictorian and Class Representative are members of the graduating class who speaks on behalf of all graduates at the Grad Ceremonies. This honour is usually bestowed on an outstanding male and female of the graduating class. The Valedictorian is chosen by a staff committee and represents all qualities that we value at RBSS: Character, Academic Achievement, Extracurricular Involvement and Community Service. In addition, students may nominate themselves or one of their Grad classmates for Class Representative. A staff committee will review all nominations to ensure candidates for Class Rep. meet the

requirements (B or higher GPA, good conduct, good citizenship, and has made significant contributions to the school) and the final representative will be chosen by a Grade 12 vote. These TWO individuals will be the Grad Valedictorian and Class Representative and will address their Grad Class at Convocation.

Grad Gowns

To cross the stage for the Grad ceremonies, we will need to order you a gown. To do this complete, the GRAD APPLICATION form (done online in June with all grade 11's – see link in grad handbook if you have not filled one in). Students will receive a black gown, and green stole, cap and **Grad 2023** tassel. The Grad Gown/Stole/ Cap/ Tassel is **yours to keep** – enjoy your souvenir. Pick up from the Counselling Centre during lunch, or before or after school at a date to be decided.

Grad Invitations

Two tickets to Convocation are included in the Graduation Fee, however, additional tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased online or at the school. You can only pick up your invitations if you have paid your \$60 Grad Fee and have no outstanding school fees. Your tickets/ invitations can be picked up TBA from the office.

Grad Ceremony Rehearsal

It is an absolute must that you are in attendance. Make sure you book the time off work! At the rehearsal you will see the layout of the Entertainment Centre, what line-up you are in, where you will sit and whom you are standing beside plus how to cross the stage without tripping.

Date: TBA

Grad Stage Crossing Quotes

Your grad stage crossing quote is read as you cross the stage during grad ceremonies. **This is different from your yearbook quote**. As grad ceremonies are a formal occasion for your parents in celebration of your achievements, you may thank your parents, acknowledge support, include a meaningful quote etc.

The final day to submit is TBA

Your stage crossing quote is written by you and will be read out loud (by a staff member) as you cross the stage during Grad Ceremonies. It is your chance to give a short statement to your parents, teachers and fellow grads regarding you, your education or your future.

Topics you might include are:

- Plans after you leave Bateman
- What you enjoyed most about Bateman
- A fond memory, a quote, a favourite saying

- Long term goals

For example: Serge would like to thank all of his coaches, teachers and fellow students who made Bateman a fun place to be! Rugby rocked and Drama rolled. Serge plans to attend UFV next year.

Rules:

- Write your introduction in third person and do not use “I”
- No longer than three sentences of approximately 30 words or less
- If you do not submit an introduction – only your name will be announced as you cross the stage.

Grad Dinner & Dance AKA - Prom

Grad Parade

Preceding the Grad Moonlight March grads individually parade / arrive to the school in their vehicle of choice. Arrive in a Fire Truck, Horse and Buggy, Classic Car, or your own vehicle all tripped out or decorated. Due to the out of town location of Prom we will not be individually driving to the Prom venue as per district policy.

Details: Wednesday, June 28th

Grad Moonlight March

Parents will delight in this activity as we ask parents to assemble in the gym, sit in the bleachers and take pictures of the entire grad class as they enter in darkness, cascading in Moonlight then march to their selection of songs and show off their tuxedos and dresses.

Details: Wednesday, June 28th

4PM

Prom Dinner & Dance

Prom is a formal event where students get to dress up and spend a very memorable night together. Grads will share a beautiful buffet dinner, there will be a few speeches, awards, and the grads will dance the night away. Bateman will be going out of district this year to a fabulous resort setting at **Swan-e-Set**. All grads and their dates MUST travel by charter bus (supplied by the school) to the venue as per district policy. Bateman must confirm numbers as of **TBA**. Prom fees must be paid by **June 1st**. If you would like to bring a date please see below.

Please NOTE: this event includes your Class of 2023 photo on the Greens at Swan-e-Set.

Date: Wednesday, June 28th

Swan-e-Set

What is a Prom DATE ticket?

Bringing a date from outside your grad class (either attending another high school, has graduated, or is in gr. 9-11 at RBSS)? You must complete a **Prom Guest Application Form** available in the office **TBA** and due no later than TBA. You are asked to pay for your date when

you submit your approval form. If your date is denied, you will receive a full refund. If you have to change dates, this can be accommodated but only if you have an original Guest Approval form in & you have paid for your date. Your guest must be approved in order to book your prom table.

Prom Tables

Students can sign up for tables in Ms. Selzer's room E315, which seat 10, for THREE days only starting TBA. You cannot sign up for a table without paying all of your school fees. It is helpful, if you write all the names of the students sitting at your table down on paper before arriving to pick your table. If any individual at your table hasn't paid their school fees, their name will not be added to your table until they have paid their fees and students may "bump" as there is NO saving of seats. To avoid this please check your cash online account.

Should you have any questions regarding Grad please email travis.bell@abbyschools.ca