

WJ Mouat Secondary Grad Handbook Grad 2027

✓ Grad Checklist

September

- Grad Parent Meeting (Grads & Parents to attend) **Wednesday, September 29 @ 7:00 pm in the Theatre.**
- Grad Clothing Order ; listen to announcements; Next order is in February - see SchoolCashOnline.
- Scholarship Meeting September 24th at lunch in LLC.

- Grad Cruise (Optional) **Friday, September 25 @ 3:45 p.m.**

October

- Application Portal for PSI is open October 2. Apply through educationplannerbc.ca
- Post-Secondary Information Night **Wednesday, October 6th @ 6:00pm in the large gym.**
- District Dogwood Scholarship Applications due the end of October. Listen to announcements for application deadline
- Literacy and Numeracy Graduation Assessments (required to graduate); **written 4 times a year**; listen to announcements for your classes scheduled writing time.

November

- TVR check - it is your responsibility to make sure your TVR is correct

December

- Book your Grad photo appointment online.

January

- Grad Photos **– January 4-14 by appointment.** All students need to have their photo taken (this will appear in the yearbook and the grad composite). A Sitting Fee applies if you would like proofs from your photo session so you can order grad photos.
- Many universities require you to apply by **Jan 31st for September 2027** Entrance. Check with Ms. Solgaard for more details
- Literacy and Numeracy Graduation Assessments (required to graduate); listen to announcements for your classes scheduled writing time

February

- Review Semester 2 timetable ensuring you meet Graduation requirements
- Last chance to order your Mouat Grad wear via School Cash Online – order date **is in February** for April delivery. See Mr. Sidhu or the office team for more details.
- Grad Photo Retakes **February 16th.**
- Complete Student Transcript Service. THIS IS A MANDATORY STEP– see Ms. Solgaard for info on website and selection process.
- Complete Abbotsford Community Foundation scholarship applications
- Application Deadline for major universities for early admission

March

- Yearbook Quotes by **Friday, March 5** via email to Ms. Coleman.

April

- All outstanding fees, textbooks etc. must be paid in full to participate in Grad events (Pay in office or online https://www.schoolcashonline.com/)
- Literacy and Numeracy Graduation Assessments (required to graduate) listen to announcements for your classes scheduled writing time

May

- Students enrolled in courses outside of Mouat required for graduation must be 80% complete by May 7th to take part in the ceremony
- Prom Guest forms available early May and due by **May 28th** to the office

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June

- Pick up your grad cap and gown in Learning Commons TBA
- Pay for your Prom Guest, if applicable
- **Grad Ceremony Rehearsal TBA**
- **Grad Ceremony TBA in June at Abbotsford Entertainment Centre**
- Book a Prom banquet table with 10 friends via Ms. Bowater; listen to announcements
- Literacy and Numeracy Graduation Assessments (required to graduate); listen to announcements for your classes scheduled writing time
- Red Carpet Arrival **Saturday, June 12th from 3pm to 4pm**
- **Hawk Walk - Saturday, June 12th at 4:15pm**
- **Prom Dinner and Dance Saturday, June 12th @ Newlands Golf and Country Club**
- PSI deadline **June 30th**

September

- Pick up your Ministry of Education Dogwood Graduation Certificate. The Ministry of Education mails the certificates to the school in the second week of September, and your Dogwood Diploma will be available for pick up from the third week of September onward. The school does NOT mail certificates due to damage.

Message to Parents

We are extremely proud and excited about this big year! We strongly encourage you as parents to get involved and help with the Grad activities. There are activities where help is needed, and input is always appreciated. Our first Grad Parent meeting is on the evening of **Wednesday, September 29th @ 7:00 pm in the Theatre.** Please check the school website for additional Grad updates at http://wjmouat.abbyschools.ca/**.** If you have any questions about a specific event, please contact the Sponsor Teacher for that function.

Grad Conduct Expectations

To participate in grad activities including Grad Cruise, Night to Remember, Prom and other activities, grade 12 students must demonstrate good conduct, school attendance, and be a good example to their peers. All activities and events listed below are school organized and sponsored and therefore all school rules apply. All events are drug and alcohol free. Attendance at these events is a privilege, based on academic eligibility, one's behaviour at school and in the community and the general health and safety of the individual and all those in attendance. Administration may remove this privilege at any time.

Sponsor Staff

Sponsor Teachers are teachers who have volunteered their time to oversee a Grad event.

●General Grad Sponsor	Mr. Sidhu
●Grad Ceremony	Ms. Bowater and Mr. Sidhu
●Grad Cruise	Mr. Sidhu
●Night to Remember/ Dry Grad	Mr. Sidhu and Mr. Gill
●Prom incl. Red Carpet & Hawk Walk	Ms. Rajabally and Ms. Bowater
●Grad Council	Ms. Bowater and Mr. Sidhu
●Yearbook	Ms. Coleman
●Grad Clothing	Mr. Sidhu and the Office Team
●District Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards	Ms. Nyberg/Ms. McAleese/Mr. O'Neill
●General Scholarships and University Entrance	Ms. Solgaard and Mrs. McAleese

Graduation and Post-Secondary Information

Graduation Requirements

The B.C. Certificate of Graduation or "Dogwood Diploma" is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements.

Subject Area	Minimum Credits
2 Career Education courses CLE 10 and CLC 12 A capstone project is required	**8**
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**
An Arts Education 10, 11 or 12 and or an Applied Design, Skills and Technologies 10, 11 or 12.	**4**
Social Studies 10	**4**
a Social Studies 11 or 12	**4**
Science 10	**4**
a Science 11 or 12	**4**
Physical Health and Education 10	**4**
A First Peoples course (available in Language Arts or Socials)	**0**
TOTAL	**52 credits**
ELECTIVE COURSES	
Students must earn at least 28 elective credits	**Minimum Credits**
Additional Grade 10-12	**28**
OVERALL TOTAL	**80**
*** Of the 80 credits for graduation, at least 16 must be at the Grade 12 level, including a Grade 12 Language Arts course. Others may be required or elective courses for PSIs. All students must take 8 courses in their timetable * Special rules apply to Programme Francophone and French Immersion students pursing both English and French Dogwood Diplomas ("Dual Dogwoods"). See your counselor for information**	

Required Literacy and Numeracy Exams:

- The Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment
- The Grade 10 Literacy Assessment
- The Grade 12 Literacy Assessment
- The Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année – Français langue seconde immersion introduced in 2021/22

Capstone Presentation

All grads are required to prepare a 10-15 minute presentation of their journey through high school and their future plans. The date is set in place by the Career Life Connections (CLC) 12 teachers. This presentation is a mandatory requirement and intended to be a celebration of your K-12 educational experience.

Online Ed Planner

All students who have intentions of applying to post-secondary for Fall 2027 should access The BC Education Planner website to plan, explore and apply. The Student Transcript Service (STS) is a MANDATORY step you must complete. See Ms. Solgaard for more information in the Career Center for more information. You can make an appointment with her simply by adding your name, phone number and email address to her appointment request sheet.

Post-Secondary Information

Parents/students are encouraged to attend **October 6th, 2025 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.** Many colleges, universities and trades schools will be there to help you explore various post-secondary options available to students and learn about the application process for college and university. Get valuable information about deadlines and application fees and ask questions to local college and university representatives. Grads should check our school website regularly to ensure they don't miss out.

Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards

Organizations want to give money away to deserving students, **BUT** you must apply. More information on these awards is available from the Career Centre. Some ways you can EARN money:

- B.C. Achievement Scholarship $1,250
- District / Authority Scholarship $1,250
- Abbotsford Community Foundation Awards $500.00 to $3000.00
- SSA (Secondary School Apprenticeship)
- Univ. / College Entrance Awards $500 - $5,000
- Major Entrance Awards $4,000 - $40,000
- Private / Corporate Awards $50 - $80,000 +

More Information at:

- Provincial Scholarship Program Information for Students
- BC Excellence Scholarships
- BC Achievement Scholarships
- District & Authority Awards
  (LINK TO APPLICATION AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE)
  - Abbotsford School District - District & Authority Awards - Application
  - Abbotsford School District - District & Authority Awards - Information Sheet
- Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship

Dogwood District/ Authority Awards

Applications available in the Career Centre.

Criteria:

The Dogwood District/Authority Awards will be available to graduates who excel in any of the following areas:

- Fine Arts (Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, Music)
- Applied Skills (Business Ed, Technology Ed, Home Economics)
- Physical Activity (not limited to Physical Education)
- Second Languages (including Aboriginal Languages)
- Community Service

Conditions:

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Project based scholarship which requires over 100 hours of work during your grade 12 year
- Apply by end of October and complete the project in a focus area by April
- Projects are adjudicated! Final score consists of adjudicated mark, focus mark and grade 12 course marks

More Information at:

- Apprenticeship Financial Supports & Award
- Work in Trades Award
- Employment Insurance
- Canada Apprentice Loan
- Red Seal Incentive & Completion Grant

- Apprenticeship Tax Credits
- Wage Subsidy Work Experience Program
- Skilled Trades Employment Program (STEP)

Abbotsford Community Foundation

Selected By: Community Panel

Due Date: End of February; Final Date to be announced (check our school website)

The local community generously provides thousands of dollars to district schools in the way of bursaries and scholarships. The awards have a variety of criteria and qualifications, making them applicable to a wide range of students. For ease of application, all these awards can be accessed in one application form. The application form and the booklet describing the awards will be available online during the first week of February.

- Students apply for these in February submitting Application letter, reference letters, and statement of grades
- Funds provided by Abbotsford businesses, estates, community service organizations, etc.
- Abbotsford Community Foundation Donors choose recipients
- Awards vary from $500 - $3,000
- Awards are presented at convocation in June

Secondary School Apprentice Scholarship (SSA)

To address the shortage of skilled trades people in BC, any student working summers or part-time in the trades can register to become a Secondary School Apprentice and earn up to 16 high school graduation credits for 480 hours of work. SSA students are eligible for a $1000.00 scholarship if they graduate with a C+ average in their Gr. 12 courses and report a total of 900 hours of work by December 30th of their graduation year. See Mr. Skelton for more information.

Online Student Transcript Service

All students who have intentions of applying to post-secondary for Fall 2027 should complete an online Student Transcript Service. You need to select the institutions you are applying to and then check off that you allow the BC Ministry of Education to submit your interim **and** final grades to that institution. Go to **www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student** for more information. You can also access this site through Educationplannerbc.ca.

Graduation Events, Activities, and Swag

Grad Team Classroom

For all up to date, often changing information, all grads are asked to join the **Grad Class of 2027 Teams Classroom**. Check this often for all things graduation! To join, there is a link on Instagram, facebook, threads, and also in the News From the Nest. There will also be a QR code in the office for them to scan.

Grad Council

Grads, your voice matters. Mr. Sidhu and Ms. Bowater have selected a small group of students to form our Grad Council for 2027. This committee of grade 12 students will work with us to share ideas, give feedback, and help organize and advertise inclusive events for the school year as well as establishing a legacy for their grad class. We would like to have a committee that reflects the diversity of our amazing grad class. This group would be committed to meeting at least once monthly, sometimes more frequently depending on the events happening.

Grad Fees

All grad events are priced to cover costs for the event. Please use https://www.schoolcashonline.com/ for payments.

Financial Assistance

We understand that there are several additional costs in your child's graduating year and for some this puts significant pressure on the family finances. If this is you, please speak with your child's Vice Principal.

Grad Valedictorian

A Valedictorian is a representative of the graduating class who speaks on behalf of the graduates at the Grad Ceremony. This honour recognizes an outstanding representative of the graduating class who has attended Mouat for at least the past two years, has a high academic standing, demonstrates Mouat spirit, has an ability to communicate well, demonstrates leadership ability, excels in a variety of curricular and extra-curricular activities and is overall a "well-rounded" student. Teacher nominated students will be reviewed by a committee of staff members who will present a short list of candidates to the Grade 12 students for their vote.

Yearbook, Blurbs & Baby Photos

Grads will be able to leave a memorable message of 250 characters or less with your grad photo in the yearbook. Blurbs and baby photos must be emailed to Ms. Coleman by end of March**:** courtney.coleman@abbyschools.ca

To avoid disappointment by having your write-up altered and/or refused for the yearbook, please adhere to the following rule: ***Anything that alludes, or that <u>might be seen</u> to allude, to drugs, alcohol, and/or other issues that are in opposition to the student code-of-conduct at WJMS will be edited and/or refused.***

<u>STEPS FOR THE WRITE-UP:</u>

1. Microsoft Word: Type your **NAME** in big font at the top. Then, paste your baby photo underneath. Below your baby photo you will add a MAXIMUM of **<u>250 CHARACTERS</u>, not words, CHARACTERS, one letter, number or space is one character,** for your grad write-up. (You can use Microsoft word character count to verify, try to avoid using all abbreviations.) Scanners are available in the library if you need to scan in your baby photo. Please make sure your picture is saved as a jpeg file with a resolution of 300 dpi if possible.

2. USE SPELL CHECK, re-read and have someone else double check and proof your write-up before sending it in. We will not allow changes once your write- up is submitted.

Grad Photos

Grad Photos will be separate from the regular school photos and will occur January 4 to 14, 2026. Grad Photo appointments will be made online. Retakes are available February 16. You MUST have your picture taken here at the school to be on the grad composite and in the yearbook – this is a FREE service. There is a $40 sitting fee if you want to purchase grad picture packages.

Grad Clothing

All grad wear purchases are made on SchoolCashOnline. Grad wear orders will be done in June of grade 11 year, October and February.

Grad Cruise

Date: Friday, September 25, 2026
Cost: $115 paid on SchoolCashOnline
Leave WJM: 3:45 pm
Return to WJM: 10:15 pm
The Grad Cruise tours WJM grads only (no guests) through the Vancouver Harbour for a three-hour event that includes a formal meal. Grads should be aware that the best photo opportunities exist on outside decks, which are subject to all manner of weather and grads should therefore bring clothing appropriate to the conditions. Remember that boat decks can be slippery regardless of the time of year and weather (think about your shoe choice!) See Mr. Sidhu for more information.

Dry Grad – Night to Remember

Date: April 23/2027.
Cost: $50.00 to $75.00
Night to Remember is an event that takes place at W.J. Mouat. This event typically runs from 5:00 pm to 12:00 pm and is for Mouat Grads only. This event prohibits early departure and late arrivals; once grads are at the event, they may not leave until the event is over. The event provides food, entertainment, activities, and prizes for the students. This exciting evening cannot happen without parent support as it is organized and run by parents/guardians of the grad students. Many of the items, food, activities, and prizes are donated by either the local community or by parents themselves. The rest is purchased from the funds that are collected from the sale of the tickets for the event.

We will need many volunteers to run the dry grad event. Please sign up under the following categories: food and drink, security, entertainment, swag bags, set up, clean up, décor and theme.

Thank you to the many parents who have already volunteered. If you are still interested in signing up and helping, please contact Mr. Sidhu.

Hawk Walk and Prom

Date: Saturday, June 12, 2027
Time: 3:00pm to 10:30pm

Families of students attending Prom are invited to our Hawk Walk on Saturday, June 12 from 3:00 - 4:30 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity where parents and students can take photos with all the Grads and their families before departing for Prom. The Prom is a formal event where students get to dress up and spend a very memorable evening together. ALL grads and guests are bussed to and from the event. There are no exceptions.

Students who come to this event under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol will not be admitted or allowed to attend Prom.

3:00 pm Red Carpet Arrival (Front Entrance)
4:30pm Load buses
4:45pm Depart for Newlands Golf and Country Club
5:30pm Arrive at Newlands Golf and Country Club
6:00pm PROM!

Prom Guest Applications

Graduates who would like to have a guest attend prom with them that is not a member of the Grad class of 2027 at Mouat must complete a Prom Guest Application/ Approval Form. The forms will be available in early May and are due by May 28th. Administration will verify the information provided and approve or decline the forms. Once approved, the guest prom fee will appear on their appropriate students SchoolCashOnline account for payment. All payments must be completed by June 4.

Grad Ceremonies

Eligibility for participation in Grad Ceremonies

To be considered "eligible for graduation" each student must

- ***complete their numeracy and literacy assessments***
- ***be no less than 80% completed your online course work by May 7th***
- ***have or be currently in the process of completing all required credit classes by May 7th***
- ***show your counsellor proof of registration in Summer School for one final course by June 4th***

If you are not sure if you have completed the requirements, please see your counselor. There will be several opportunities to check and review transcripts prior to the June 4th deadline.

Grad Ceremony Rehearsal

Students who are participating in the Grad Ceremony are required to attend a rehearsal. Students at the rehearsal, will practice where we will line up, what line you are in, and who you are standing beside. We need you there so we can see how you will fit in the rows. You will also learn the procedure for crossing the stage. You will be nervous enough as it is, but we will practice so you will be calm in the evening.

Grad Ceremony and Convocation

Date: TBA
Time: TBA
Place: Abbotsford Entertainment Center
Cost: $60

- includes, cap, gown, tassel to keep, 5x7 grad photo, 11x14 grad class composite, keepsake portfolio and 2 ceremony tickets

Things to know about Grad Ceremony night:

- If you want to take pictures, arrive early, and take the pictures with your family before the ceremony.
- Each Grad will be given a professional photograph of themselves on the stage by Vibrant Photography.
- Out of respect for everyone in attendance, during the ceremony, air horns and other loud instruments are strictly prohibited.
- Come to the ceremony already dressed in your gown with personal clothes underneath.
- Students who come to this event under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol will not be admitted or allowed to attend the convocation ceremony.

Ceremony Gowns

To cross the stage for this formal ceremony, we will be ordering you a ceremonial gown. Be sure you have completed the Graduation Contract so that we have your height (which orders you the right length gown). School fees must be paid for you to receive your cap and gown which will be distributed in the library during the week of the ceremony.