



ÉCOLE MISSION SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 75 (MISSION)
32939 SEVENTH AVENUE, MISSION, B.C. V2V2C5
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Mission Sr. Secondary Grade 12 Students and Families

Re: 2020 Ecole Mission Senior Secondary Commencement

During these unprecedented times, our team has been working to develop a Commencement Ceremony that honours the MSS Graduating Class of 2020. Our goal has been to create an event that acknowledges and recognizes the hard work and dedication of our graduates and their families, while still adhering to the provincially mandated social distancing measures. While provincial rules restrict our ability to hold a traditional ceremony, we have done our best to replicate this in an altered format.

Presented below is a tentative plan that we are presenting to our Mission Community.

Commencement Date: June 20, 2020

Time: 10am – 5pm

1. The event will be live streamed and will be viewable throughout the day and for a week after.
 2. The opening ceremonies will be recorded the morning of the event so students can watch prior to walking the stage.
 3. All social distancing protocols will be in place throughout the event.
 4. Every grad will have their picture displayed on the big screen in front of the school during the event.
 5. Every grad will be given a variety of “swag” that will include a yearbook provided by the Dry Grad Committee.
 6. An opportunity for all Grads to digitally sign their yearbooks is being provided by Jostens.
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- The Graduation Class of 2020 Commencement event will include a parade walk on 7th avenue and the presentation of their graduation diploma on a stage with Mr. Pearce. The entire event will be livestreamed for viewing of family and friends.
 - The livestream of our ceremony will begin at 9:00 AM with opening ceremonies and speeches provided by dignitaries.
 - Starting at 10am the first group of 50 graduates will arrive at the Leisure Centre and be greeted by volunteers to prepare them for their parade walk down 7th Avenue to our Commencement stage.
 - Upon arrival, individual graduates will proceed one at a time onto the stage to receive their Diploma, their yearbook and have their photograph taken with Mr. Pearce. All students will receive a copy of their photo. Students receiving scholarships will be presented with these at this time.

- During the event we invite parent/guardians, family and friends to line up along 7th Avenue to celebrate as our graduates walk along the parade route. We will have designated social distancing markers placed on the sidewalk so everyone can feel comfortable.

Prior to Commencement (June 20th)

- Students are required to sign up online, in advance, indicating their intent to participate – sign up will open early June, with the date TBA.
- We will be allowing 50 graduates per hour and students will be allowed to choose the time slot they wish, and an opportunity to sign up with their friends.
- On June 10th students may pick up their grad gowns and cap at the school starting at 10 am. This will allow families additional time to get photos done with family prior to the event. This year grads will keep their gowns and caps as a keepsake.
- Prior to grad gown pickup all outstanding school fees should be settled. Please contact a school administrator if fees are a concern for your family. We do not want to add any further stress or anxiety and will work together to find a solution.
- Additionally, any student or family member participating in the event will be required to complete the attached Daily Health Assessment form to assist with ensuring the safety of individuals participating in the event.
- Additional details related to parking, and other specifics of the day will be provided as we get closer to the date. Please stay tuned!

Please note, we have also been forced to make the difficult decision to cancel Prom due to the ongoing need to follow social distancing guidelines. This was not an easy decision and it breaks our hearts we are not able to provide our graduates with Prom.

As we all know, life at times can feel unpredictable and uncertain. The relationships you have built with your graduating peers will last forever and this unpredictable situation will not alter that. Let's be thankful for our health, our families and always have hope for a bright and promising future.

We are proud of each one of you as the members of the Graduating Class of 2020, and excited about the opportunities and the path ahead of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Pearce', with a stylized, overlapping loop structure.

Jim Pearce
Principal
Mission Sr. Secondary