

Grad Celebration

The new Westerner Exhibition Hall has been booked along with a caterer, and DJ for our formal **evening celebration** including a **Graduation Banquet & Dance!** Following both the student and parent survey the decision has been made to go ahead with planning for Wednesday June 29th. This event will follow the Graduation Ceremony held in our field house.

Tickets for this will go on sale in the spring. The student grad committee are brainstorming ideas of how students can be involved to reduce the cost of their banquet tickets. We are very aware that graduation, though exciting, can be expensive - please contact erin.dirsten@rdcrs.ca if you have any concerns.

JUNE 5

GRAD MASS
&
RECEPTION

JUNE 24

GRAD
REHEARSAL

JUNE 29

CEREMONY
BANQUET
DANCE

Bird Feeder Fridays



THE BIRD FEEDER WILL BE OPEN
THE LAST DAY OF EACH WEEK -
RUN BY OUR GRADS.

PROCEEDS WILL BE SPLIT BETWEEN
THE GRAD SERVICE PROJECT & STUDENTS
WANTING TO PAY DOWN THEIR BANQUET TICKETS.
CONTACT MS. DIRSTEN FOR MORE INFORMATION

*Iced Chai
Popcorn
Hot Dogs
Ice Cream
Grad Key Chains*

Gowns & Suits for Grads

FREE FORMAL WEAR

February 26th 9am-6pm

February 27th 10am-4pm

6315 Horn Street • Red Deer Elk Hall

CONTACT LOUISE 403.357.8292

*Grad
Photos*

Your graduation photos are scheduled to happen March 7-17th at the school.
Online appointment booking will open in February, notifications will be sent out.

To book your session, go to www.prestigeportraits.ca

Enter Alberta and Red Deer in the search fields, select St. Joseph and follow along.

You do not need the 8 digit appointment code.

Be sure to remember your photo time. Don't forget or be late!

A few things to note... EVERY GRAD NEEDS TO HAVE A PHOTO TAKEN!

If you want a yearbook photo only, with no option to purchase photos, please book a standard session, scroll past the payment screen and click continue. When you arrive for your appointment, let photographers know you want the free, yearbook only session. It will be about 10 minutes, but remember, you will not have the option to purchase photos.

If you book the \$40 standard session and you do not have a credit card for payment, no worries, scroll past the credit card information window and click continue. You can still book your appointment and will be able to pay at the time of your session. Photographers take cheque, cash or debit.

Grad Service Project

Each year the graduating class of SJHS leads a school wide, year long service project to bring awareness and support to a local non-profit.

This year we proudly stands with
The Red Deer Dream Centre
in the process and hope of restoration

Fun-Raising

February 11th - Valentine Cakepops @ the Bird Feeder
March 4th - Lanes for Legacy: Bowling Team Challenge
April 1st - Red & Black Falcon Formal
May 5th - Moms Night Out (Pottery)
June 6-14th - Parking Spot Painting
June 15th - Grad BBQ & Fun Day

Red & Black Falcon Formal

Night of Mystery, Intrigue & Dance Moves

\$15 Tickets

FRIDAY April 1st

GRAD CLOTHING

Online Clothing Store will be open

FEBRUARY 25th - March 11th

www.stjosephhigh.ca/grad/grad-clothing

DRIVER EDUCATION

Supporting the St. Joseph Grad Service Project,
D2L Driver Education Ltd. is donating \$75
for each regular priced course purchased
during this school year!

When registering please select
"ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL"

www.drive2live.ca

Parent Survey Q & A

Can we have a dance at the banquet?

Yes! We are planning a dance to follow the Banquet & Grand March. This will be held at the New Westerner Exhibition Hall.

Vaccination requirements for ceremony and banquet?

This will depend on provincial regulations at the time of the celebration. There is potential we may be required to show a negative test or proof of vaccination.

Why are we not using the Centrium for the ceremony?

Currently there is not access to the Centrium arena due to prior bookings. Along with this, we are not quite big enough. Graduation Ceremony expenses (ceremony facility, gowns, certificates, AV) are paid for through the school budget and Grad fees. The more grads - the higher our budget.

Props for grad photos?

Lifetouch (Prestige Photos) is a private business with their own guidelines, we simply let you know what their guidelines are. Please contact them directly with any questions regarding props. Contact: nfmelnyk@lifetouch.ca

Do we have to get Grad Photos?

Yes- we ask that every grad get a photo for yearbook. However you can book a FREE session through Prestige Photos for the yearbook and then take separate photos yourself. If you book a FREE session you will not receive proofs from Prestige.

Will there be a safe/dry grad?

A Safe/dry grad party is not something the school or division can have a part in. Any safe/dry grad activities are parent led and any communication would need to be through the parents themselves.

Q: What is a [myPass Account](#) and why do I need one?

A: myPass is a self-service website for students provided by Alberta Education. All students require a myPass account so they can:

- Order official transcripts
- View Detailed Academic Report (DAR)
- View progress towards high school diploma
- Update their personal information

Q: I want to see if I am on track to graduate. How do I check my credits?

A: Create a [myPass account](#) to see your most up to date credits on your Detailed Academic Report (DAR). The current grad list is emailed out to parents and students monthly and physically posted outside the SSC. If students check their myPass account and have concerns about grad tracking, please email [Mrs. Bennington](#) and a grad credit check can be verified. Students who are at risk to graduate will receive frequent communication and monitoring to redirect their grad tracking.

Q: How do I apply to post-secondary institutions?

A: Students planning to attend a post-secondary institution in Alberta apply through the Apply [Alberta website](#). Be prepared to pay the required (non-refundable) application fee with a credit card. Prior to applying, it is wise for students to check the post secondary institution's website for application date deadlines.

Students applying out of province will be required to follow the instructions from the institute's website. Please connect with Mrs. Bennington if you are attending post secondary in the United States.

Q: My post secondary institution or a scholarship is asking for my high school transcripts.

A: If you apply to a post secondary institution in Alberta, your official high school transcripts will automatically be sent to the institute from Alberta Education. They may ask you for an unofficial transcript which you can access from myPass for free as your Detailed Academic Report.

For all other requests for official transcripts, students can order these through their myPass account. There is a \$10 fee for each request and Alberta Education will send your official transcript directly to the out of province post secondary institution or the scholarship organization.

Q: How do I know I have the right courses or marks to get into a post secondary program?

A: Post secondary institutes will have this information on their websites. The best place to start is at the institute as the requirements and entrance averages can change. Keep in mind that minimum averages posted on the web site are minimums, and institutions usually enter students with the highest averages for competitive programs (It is usually stated if the program is competitive). Students with the minimum average will therefore not be offered a seat in the program, or will be waitlisted for this program due to high applications competing for entrance.

Q: How do I apply for student loans?

A: [Applications](#) for student loans don't open until the spring prior to your post-secondary attendance. You must be accepted into a program prior to applying.

Q: On Apply Alberta, it asks me to enter my grade 12 marks. How can I do that if I have not finished grade 12?

A: In this field, you will select “in progress” if you are taking the course currently or “planning to take” if you have registered for the course in semester 2. They want an educated estimate of what you believe your final marks will be. You can be offered conditional acceptance based upon these estimates, so do be realistic. Consider how you have performed in this subject in the past, as well as how you realistically feel you will do in the course. Your transcripts won’t lie, if you are not realistic, your conditional acceptance may be withdrawn once your final transcripts are received by the institution.

Q: Where am I going to live when I go to school?

A: Most post secondary institutions do have campus housing (residence). Some students prefer to live off campus and can find affordable and close to campus options by contacting the institution’s student association. Deadlines for housing applications vary according to institutions. Search your institution’s website for residence applications and deadlines. It is recommended to apply early to residence as applications are considered on a first come, first served basis.

Q: I am going to need scholarships. Where do I find them and how do I get them?

A: Finding and applying for scholarships can feel like a part time job - but the payout can be well worth the effort!

See if you qualify for the [Rutherford Scholarship](#). It’s likely the easiest scholarship to apply for.

1. Does your post-secondary institute offer entrance scholarships? You can find this out by searching their website for funding and awards.
2. Visit [St. Joseph High School Career Centre](#) webpage [Scholarships link](#).
3. Create a [ScholarTree](#) and [Scholarships Canada](#) account. These sites will match your profile information to scholarships you may qualify for.
4. Pick up a St. Joseph High School Scholarship application package from the Career Centre. These are school based awards provided by local community sponsors that you may qualify for. Application packages are available in May.
5. Check to see if your parents’ employer has scholarships for children of employees.
6. Book a Scholarships appointment with Mrs. Bennington and join the Careers Google Classroom (code:zxwycql)
7. [Tips for Scholarships](#):
 - A) Write a great essay. You can use this essay as the framework for scholarship application requirements.
 - B) Keep a spreadsheet of who you applied to in order to track your scholarship hunt.
 - C) Most scholarships look for academics, leadership, and community service. If you don’t have a resume, now is the time to make one. This will help guide you when asked on an application about your leadership skills, volunteer involvement, and academics. Mrs. Bennington can support students in creating a resume/cover letter.

Q: Do I qualify for the Alexander Rutherford Scholarship? How do I apply?

A: Students will only be considered for the [Rutherford](#) when you have been accepted into a post-secondary program. The Rutherford can only be awarded once and is available for years after graduation, so if you take a gap year - it’s waiting for you! All you need to do is apply.

Q: I have way more questions. Where can I get more help and information?

A: Career information is a huge topic and not everyone goes to school after graduation! Grade 12 students are strongly encouraged to book a career appointment with [Mrs. Bennington](#). Parents are more than welcome to request information to best support your grad!

GRAD FEES

\$50 payable
to the office

*COLINS, CEREMONY

CELEBRATION TICKETS

AVAILABLE
SPRING 2022

www.stjosephhigh.ca/grad