



BEV FACEY
COMMUNITY HIGH

99 Colwill Blvd., Sherwood Park, AB T8A 4V5
P 780.467.0044 | BEVFACEY.CA
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May 8, 2020

Dear Bev Facey Families,

We are writing to follow-up with you about plans for a modified graduation. For all of us, it was difficult to hear the news about the cancellation of formal graduation ceremonies and celebrations.

Over the last couple of weeks, senior high principals across Elk Island Public Schools have worked collaboratively to figure out a way to honour the graduating class of 2020. We are pleased to inform you, we have a plan in place—one that allows us to celebrate this significant milestone with students, while also respecting the restrictions necessary for everyone to remain safe and healthy.

To recognize the Class of 2020, Bev Facey Community High School is hosting a modified Graduation Convocation Ceremony tentatively scheduled for June 22- 26. Throughout the week, Grade 12 students, along with a limited number of guests, will arrive at the school by vehicle, wearing their choice of formal wear. On arrival, the student and their guests will have a 15-minute time slot to enter the school where the graduand will drop off their textbooks/technology and put on their regalia. The student will walk a red carpet to the presentation area. At the end of the carpet, Mr. Spady and Mrs. Orr will greet each student and present their graduation certificate—observing appropriate physical distancing. We will then direct the student to move their tassel from right to left signifying they have officially graduated. This portion of the event will be live streamed so that guests not on-site can also witness the presentation.

After the tassel turning, guests can take photos of the graduate, using a marked backdrop. Once complete, the student and guests will leave the school through a different exit. Graduates are able to keep their regalia for photos with their family and can return the gown and stole in a drop box at the main doors the following day. After departing the presentation area, the next graduate and guests will arrive. With our limited time frame, students and guests must adhere to their designated timeslots to ensure all 330 presentations can be completed within the week.

All guests are encouraged to get into the spirit of the event and don the special outfits they originally planned to wear for the original convocation ceremony. As well, we hope all families consider decorating their vehicles to mark the occasion and make for an unforgettable entrance when pulling into the parking lot. Vehicles will need to have a driver that can remain with the vehicle and continue to move the vehicle between drop off and pick up locations that will be on opposite sides of the school.

In addition to the red carpet, we will share videos and materials with graduates that include official speeches, the valedictorian address and photos of all the students who are graduating—much like what they would experience at our traditional convocation.



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As stated, timing is of the essence in keeping the ceremony safe for everyone involved. As such, the school will send a link to all families on May 22, 2020 to book a timeslot for the modified Graduation Convocation Ceremony using the online school interview scheduler at www.schoolinterviews.ca. The school will also indicate a deadline to submit a timeslot, date to be determined, which will ensure everything is prepared for each student's arrival.

If you and your family choose not to participate in the modified ceremony, we understand and respect that decision. For these students, we will ensure they receive their cap, tassel, certificate, and other grad memorabilia—either by pick-up or delivery.

While we can't replicate the experience of past graduations, we are confident this plan allows graduation to remain a special moment for students and their families—and a memory they'll look back on with fondness. Schoolwide, we are incredibly proud of the work the Class of 2020 has put into achieving this important milestone, and we look forward to the opportunity to see each of them again before the school year ends.

Sincerely,

Barclay Spady
Principal

Cherum Orr
Assistant Principal

Matt Shudra
Assistant Principal

Trudi Williamson
Assistant Principal