

Do the grads need a suit or fancy dress?

There is no requirement that grads have a suit or formal dress. When they come to the school, they will be covered by their grad gown. It does look nice with the grad gown when boys are wearing a collared shirt and tie and if girls have a top with a V neck that does not show above the gown. Students are welcome to wear a suit or formal dress if they would like to be able to take pictures in it with their family.

Are there any other fees associated with the ceremony/grad?

The \$80 grad fee covers everything so there will not be any other money required to be paid.

What does the grad ceremony look like based on what we know today?

The grad ceremony will be similar to last year's event. Last year, students entered the Banner Gym with their family to wait for their turn. In the Banner Gym we had videos playing with recorded messages from teachers and grads had an opportunity to take photos with their family. The family then went into the North Gym to have a front row seat for the graduation. The grad proceeded to the podium where they were announced. They then walked the red carpet to the "stage" where they were greeted by Mr. Spady and their grade level administrator. Mr. Spady moved their tassel to the other side to signify their graduation and they were presented with their diploma cover. The family was then able to take photos of the grad on "stage". They were then able to proceed to the exit door where there was another opportunity for photos. The "stage" area was livestreamed so family from out of town could watch.

Do you need any parent help for any of the prep of the ceremonies?

At this point we are not aware of any parent help required. Depending on what we decide in terms of booths or stations for grads to visit before they reach their actual graduation time we may require parent help. An email will be sent out to all parents with request for volunteers if needed. We appreciate that this group has always been very willing to help!

Will the ceremonies be live streamed so out of town people can watch it?

The ceremony will be live streamed so anyone can watch. As well, speeches, grad talent performances, the grad slideshow, etc. will all be recorded and made available to grads to download.

Is the prom-style dinner/dance (where the students wear their formal dresses) cancelled?

Unfortunately, there will definitely not be a prom-style dinner and dance this year.

How long is the "ceremony"?

The main part of the ceremony where they are announced, have their tassel moved and receive their diploma cover will take about 1 minute.

How long are time bookings?

The time bookings will be about 10-15 minutes as we will have a cue and different stages to the process that the grads will move through before they actually get to the part where they cross the stage.

As of right now is there a limit on people that can come to the ceremony? Just parents?

We will not know how many people will be able to attend with the grad until we see what the AHS indoor gathering limits are closer to the grad dates. We will allow as many people as possible while staying within those limits.

If you are able to do friend groups how will bookings work? Do you know yet?

Friend group booking will definitely be more challenging. If we are able to do that we will have to devise a more complicated booking system than simply using the system we use to book parent/teacher interviews. We will continue to plan for this and hope that we are able to allow groups of friends to book together.

Is there a theme?

The theme has not been chosen yet. We will be surveying the grad class to get their input on a theme.

How will it work this year with grade 10 and 11 attending school on those days?

It is likely that grade 10 and 11 students will be writing their exams during grad. We do not have to use the gyms for exams now as students are able to write in their classrooms.

Did the grads go to the legislative grounds for a group pic last year?

Groups of friends went to the legislative grounds on their own. This was not something that the school arranged.

Are people from out of town able to attend?

Family from out of town can certainly attend as long as they are fulfilling any AHS requirements related to travel if they are coming from outside of Canada. We will be having all attendees complete COVID screening questionnaires prior to attending graduation.

When will bookings open up?

We will wait as long as possible before opening bookings to get an accurate picture of what the indoor gathering limits are. It will probably be sometime in May.

When do the grads get their gowns?

We have not determined an exact date yet but we will make them available to grads well in advance so they are able to have an opportunity to use them for photos with family and friends at home.

We already got the diploma in the mail - do they get another diploma or certificate at the ceremony?

Alberta Education will mail students their diploma as soon as they have achieved all of the requirements. On graduation day students receive a diploma cover that contains a certificate from EIPS.