



# Dawson Creek Secondary School

South Peace Campus  
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*Supporting a passion for learning in school, community, and beyond*

**June 1st, 2021**

**RE: Graduation 2021 Plans - Revised**

Dear Grade 12 Parents/Guardians:

The BC Provincial Government released a restart plan last week that outlines the gradual lifting of restrictions over the next few months. We were excited by this news because we felt we could have a graduation that was similar to last year.

Late last week, we received communication from the Ministry of Education stating the K – 12 school system would not be adjusting protocols for the remainder of the year. This included direction regarding Graduation Ceremonies and instructions for schools to ‘stay the course’ with event planning. The Ministry of Education was very specific in their documentation that the potential new indoor gathering size limit of 50, effective June 15<sup>th</sup>, does not apply to school organized graduation events held on or off school grounds, both inside and outside.

The recent Ministry communication was met with frustration as we had hoped the restart plan would provide more flexibility in our planning of graduation ceremonies. We were disheartened by the ‘stay the course’ direction. However, constraints breed creativity. We have adjusted our plans and will host individual graduation ceremonies in succession that include families and provide a unique and meaningful student experience.

## **The Last Lap of South Peace 2021**

“I’m just doing a lap” is a phrase we often hear from our students and so we are going to use that expression to give graduates and their families an interactive last lap through the school.

We are pivoting to individual ceremonies for graduates with **up to four** guests. The ceremonies will occur as a procession through the school. Students and guests will arrive at a set time and move through a series of interactive check points. Areas will be set up to view speeches from the Principal, Historians, and Valedictorians. There will also be spaces set up to get photographs with family and enjoy a snack or beverage. The procession concludes with a stage-crossing in Unchagah hall and presentation of certificates to the graduates.

The Last Lap Ceremonies will take place on **Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> between 6pm and 9pm**, and **Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> between 1pm and 4pm**. We had previously asked students to sign up for four different ceremonies; we will use these sign-ups to designate student groupings.

### *OUR MISSION*

*Empowering our community to be inquisitive, critical, and resilient learners and empathetic citizens*

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*A scheduling change will be that students that signed up on Thursday will now be attending a Friday Ceremony.*

Graduates and families will be provided with a specific time for arrival. The event is highly dependent on punctuality to maintain flow of groups through the school. **The four-guest limit is strict.** The event will be livestreamed for families at home.

Students are asked to complete the following form to indicate the guests that will be attending the ceremony. The form also contains questions for students about their school experience and post-graduation plans. This information will be shared during the ceremony as students are announced to cross the stage.

### [Graduation Form](#)

As we work through the final plans, we will be providing students with their Last Lap Ceremony time when they pick-up their Cap and Gown next week.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we aim to provide a memorable experience for our graduates.

Thank you,

DCSS Administration

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