



**ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE**  
**HOME OF THE KNIGHTS FOR 50 YEARS**

# Graduation 2018

## Parent's Guide

***Congratulations!*** Your son or daughter is graduating! This Parent's Guide has been assembled by parent volunteers to give you an overview of the Graduation Activities at STMC.

This Guide will be uploaded to the STMC website – [www.stmc.bc.ca](http://www.stmc.bc.ca). As dates and times are set for the various events, these details will be included in the on-line Parent's Guide.

Each year a grad committee is formed by parents to organize activities for our STMC Graduates. While this group will serve as the central hub of organization, more ideas and volunteers are very welcome! The more parent involvement, the lighter the load and the better the experience for everyone! The following parents have volunteered to be on the grad committee and lead the various events:

Co-chairs:	Sandy Shein & Pam Hackett
Treasurer:	Marika Wasaznik
Grad Mass Reception:	Teresa Yang & Aida Moniz
Grad Breakfast:	Shar Hayek & Laura Fridfinnson
Commencement Reception:	Sarah Cepeliauskas & Sue Lashmore
Pub Night:	Cheryl Chan & _____
Dry Grad:	Cedric Vaz & _____

## **GRAD ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**

*We strongly suggest that you mark these dates in your calendars!*

### **GRAD MASS RECEPTION – THURSDAY MAY 24, 2017 @ 7:00PM**

A Grad Mass will be held at Our Lady of Mercy at 7455 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Burnaby, (right behind STMC on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and Kingsway). Directly after Mass, a reception will be held in the STMC cafeteria for all graduates and their attending family members. Light refreshments will be served. This is a lovely ceremony that you are strongly encouraged to attend.

This event will be organized and coordinated by grade 12 parents, (including the purchase and preparation of food and decorating), but will be run on the day by grade 11 parents so that grade 12 parents can enjoy the event with their graduates. The Grad Committee funds this event.

TEAM LEADERS: Teresa Yang & Aida Moniz

### **GRAD BREAKFAST – FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 @ 8:30AM**

The Grad Breakfast is held in the STMC cafeteria and is open to all graduates and teachers. A scrumptious, catered breakfast is served. Graduates do not have to wear their uniforms but are asked to come dressed in 'dress-casual' attire – no jeans, sweatpants or shorts. Parents are not invited to this event.

This event will be organized and run by grade 12 parents, (including organizing the caterer, decorating and serving). The Grad Committee funds this event.

TEAM LEADERS: Shar Hayek & Laura Fridfinnson

## **COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018 @ 5PM**

Commencement is the formal graduation ceremony. It is held at the Massey Theatre in New Westminster. This is organized by STMC staff and is not part of the grad committee's responsibilities. This event is for all graduates, parents and families to come together and celebrate your child's official graduation. Each graduate will be given 2 reserved tickets for seating. These can be used by any members of your family. Additional seats are available on a "first-come, first served" basis (not reserved) and are located in the higher section of the theatre.

Massey Theatre: 735 Eighth Avenue, New Westminster. Parking is limited so we recommend that you leave enough time to secure parking.

The Grad Committee orders and funds the grad caps and tassels that serve as a keepsake for the graduates. We will be ordering these in May.

## **COMMENCEMENT RECEPTION – WEDNESDAY JUNE 27, 2018**

Following the commencement ceremony, graduates and their families are invited to a reception held in the STMC cafeteria. This reception represents the chance for people to socialize more informally after the formal program. Sweet and savoury snacks, as well as a variety of beverages will be served.

The Commencement reception will be coordinated by grade 12 parents, (including the purchase of food, decorations, etc.), but is to be run by grade 11 (or other) parents so that grade 12 parents can enjoy the event with their graduates. The Grad Committee funds this event.

TEAM LEADERS: Sarah Cepeliauskas & Sue Lashmore

## **GRAD DINNER & DANCE – THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018**

This is organized by STMC staff and is not part of the Grad Committee's responsibility. This is for all graduates, parents and staff to come together and celebrate your child's graduation.

Date: Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Location: (to be confirmed)

### **Schedule:**

6:00 – 6:30 – Reception

6:30 – 7:00 – Grand March

7:00 – 9:30 – Dinner Buffet

9:30 – 01:00 – Dancing

**Tickets:** Starting at \$110 (subject to change) per person attending, depending on date purchased. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of May and may be purchased through Mr. Muise. There is a limit on the number of tickets per student. Any student wishing to purchase more than five tickets must see Mr. Muise to check for availability. Please note GRADUATES must also purchase a ticket.

**Table assignments:** When students bring their money in to pay for their tickets, please let Mr. Muise know the names of the people attending and who they are sitting with. Students sometimes sit with their parents, sometimes with friends and parents sit as a group elsewhere. It is up to you! Any graduate who does not tell Mr. Muise their table arrangements, will be arranged in tables by him. Tables' sizes are 7 to 12. Tables consisting of less than 7 people may have additional people added to them.

***IMPORTANT NOTE \*\*All bookings at the Hotel Vancouver are subject to change/cancellation until three months before the actual event, so it is possible that the date and/or the venue may change.***

Parents purchase tickets for themselves and their Graduate(s).

## **DRY GRAD – THURSDAY, JUNE 28TH – FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH, 2018**

The Dry Grad is NOT a school-sponsored event. It is hosted by volunteer STMC parents. This event is coordinated by Grade 12 parents, (including booking venue, organizing food and party rentals, securing volunteers, etc.), but organization and supervision on the day of the event is handled by Gr. 11 parents.

The Dry Grad is an event organized by the Grad Committee to provide a safe and alcohol free party for all the graduates to have fun and socialize with their fellow grads. Dates are welcome to attend for a small fee of \$20. Dates must be approved by Mr. Garland in advance. The Grad Committee funds this event.

**The Grad Committee hires buses to safely transport all graduates to the Dry Grad.**

Location: 8 Rinks Complex - Burnaby

Time: Approx. 12:00 am to \_\_\_\_ (END TIME STILL TO BE DETERMINED)

TEAM LEADERS: Cedric Vaz & \_\_\_\_\_

## **FUNDING FOR GRAD EVENTS**

Now for the fun part! As you can see by the events listed above, graduation is a special time with many events and activities...and expenses! In the past, it has involved a lot of fundraising. For the past two years, the PA has collected \$250 from each graduate to cover the majority of these expenses. This means we only need one really successful fundraiser!

We are planning to hold a Pub Night to bring together grad families and their friends and to raise the remainder of the funds. In past years, the Pub Night was a highlight for parents and raised upwards of \$15,000! We need a dynamic team to plan this fun event.

TEAM LEADERS: Cheryl Chan & \_\_\_\_\_

If you have an idea or a way to contribute – please let us know! Previous years STMC families involved with catering have donated or provided low cost food for the receptions and Dry Grad while other families provided a break for costs like tenting. Anything like this is very welcome and appreciated!

*Please remember, any Grad activities and fundraising events are subject to change at this time and are subject to the approval of the STMC Administration.*