



Whoo's News



April 16, 2021

Dear parents, guardians, and KSS grade 12 students,

As was true through the Spring of 2020, celebrating the completion of our Grads' journey through their school years remains a priority for our school community. At this time, we do not anticipate being able to gather in a group of over 3000 people at Trinity Baptist Church in a live ceremony, and we will move forward with planning a virtual ceremony which will be live-released on YouTube for our students and their families until a formal decision is made by the District. Overwhelmingly, the feed-back from 2020 families and grads after viewing our recorded ceremonies was positive. Students who are in a calculable position to graduate have had a \$75 Grad fee added to their online student accounts. These fees are meant to cover the costs associated with a recorded and streamed ceremony, including but not limited to: production cost, souvenir cap, gown and stole, keepsake diploma and 5" x 7" grad photo, commemorative photo composite, staging, security, etc. For equity, the three largest high schools in the district have all confirmed that their grad fees are in alignment.

In May, we will be posting an online sign-up for grads and **a maximum of four family members** to come to KSS over the weekend of June 5-6 to attend a brief, formal stage-crossing. A Covid-19 safety plan will be distributed in advance to protect the health of students and their families, as well as KSS staff members who will be volunteering. Students will receive their keepsake caps and gowns in advance, and this will allow grads and families to take photos and record this special occasion with creativity.

As family members will be present to view and record their graduate's stage-crossing, we will not be recording every moment; however, we will broadcast a formal production on Thursday, June 24 that will contain valedictory addresses, messages from our school principal, district officials, dignitaries, as well as a variety of celebrations of our graduates throughout their time at KSS. Please monitor the Whoo's News for a call for photographs and submissions over the next few months. We look forward to celebrating and honouring your graduates with you in June.

KSS Graduation Committee

DRY GRAD 2021: This year, we won't be able to host the traditional Dry Grad event for our 2021 graduates, due to the pandemic. We would still like to do something special for them, and the parent Dry Grad Committee has been working on some covid-friendly ideas to celebrate our students in early June. We are looking for DONATIONS for prizes. If you have, or know of, a business that would be willing to donate a gift card or item, please email kssdrygrad2021@gmail.com.

BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISING!! We are now accepting any empties that you would like to donate to KSS Dry Grad 2021 at the Kent Road Bottle Depot in Kelowna OR the Boucherie Bottle Depot in West Kelowna. At the Kent Rd location, please bring in your empties, unsorted, in sealed, transparent plastic bags. At the Express Kiosk, enter this phone number: (000) 123-2021. Follow the prompts, and you will receive sticker tags displaying a unique express account code. Place one sticker on each bag and drop the bags off at the designated Express drop off area where the contents will be counted. In West Kelowna, you will need to sort your own bottles and ask that the money go to KSS Dry Grad 2021 (acct #195). Please help us spread the word!

To VOLUNTEER for the Dry Grad Committee, please email kssdrygrad2021@gmail.com. Please note, Dry Grad is organized and run by parent volunteers, and we need your help! To stay up to date, please join our FACEBOOK PAGE: Parents of KSS 2021 Grads

Grad 2021 Stage-crossing Sign-up

We're using SignUp.com (the leading online SignUp and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming SignUps.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/go/CJJaRQp>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone.

Monday, April 19 is the first day of Quarter 4—Block 2/4 (Day 2) Group A

Dear Grade 12 students and parents of KSS:

Regarding Prom and Grad Walk

It is with heavy hearts that we message you today to formally end all prom activities for our 2021 grads. We have been waiting patiently, hoping that our world would open up to the extent that we could host some form of prom ceremony for our students, but this hasn't happened. Not only is the province strictly limiting get-togethers, but the Delta Grand is not currently hosting any events.

Unfortunately, a traditional grad walk, whether indoors or at a city-owned facility, requires a permit from the City of Kelowna. Due to the pandemic, events like this are not permissible with current restrictions. We understand how the perception of informal gatherings, even in cohorts, is appealing, but from a logistical perspective we need to consider that crowds do attend these events, which is also not permissible under the Provincial Health Officer's guidelines for the foreseeable future. Additionally, the school cannot be responsible for the gathering of groups at other locations either. While we would do our best to ensure social distancing measures were followed by grads and their guests, we cannot guarantee it.

As a school, we are deeply saddened by this. Prom is a time when students come together and share experiences from their school years and say goodbye to one another. We know that this is an event that students look forward to for years and we understand the loss this represents.

We will move forward with our commencement ceremony plans which will take place in-person here at KSS on June 5-6 with limited capacity, and will be streamed for all grads and families on June 24. We continue to plan online activities for our grads and encourage them to participate in these fully.

Sincerely,
Your KSS Grad Team



Dear Parents/Guardians,

The enclosed link is for the 2021 Student Learning Survey comes from the Ministry of Education and is for students in grade 10 and 12, their parents/guardians, and our staff. We would like to encourage you to take the survey as it gives opportunity for feedback. A parent/guardian may complete a survey for each child in the targeted grades. It takes approximately 25-30 minutes to complete.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access at home, work, or school.

Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

1. Under the section *Direct Access – no login number required* select:

- District: 23 Central Okanagan
- School: Kelowna Secondary
- Language: the language of your choice



Complete the survey by clicking [on the appropriate circle to answer each question](#). Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.

- When you are finished the survey, you will get a message "Thank you for sharing your views".

Once complete, your school will have the results immediately.

Parents/Guardians/Caregivers can complete the [online Anonymous Student Learning Surveys](#) any time before **11:59 pm April 30th, 2021**, providing immediate results to the school and the district.

For more information about the Student Learning Survey, please visit the website at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey

Thank you in advance!

The **Annual General Meeting of the KSS PAC** will be held on **Tuesday May 11th at 6:30 pm** on Zoom. We will be holding elections for all PAC Executive Committee positions. For a list of positions, please see the PAC page on the KSS website. All positions are open for nominations and are for a one-year term. All parents and guardians of current KSS students are voting members of the PAC and eligible to hold an executive position. For more information or to make a nomination, please email kss.pac@sd23.bc.ca

Post Secondary Prep

Session #3

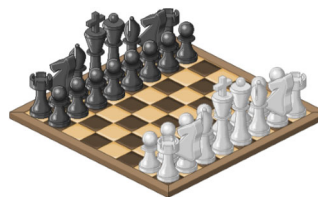
- Institution Updates
- Student Transcript Service
- Sources of Funding
- Post Secondary Calendar
- Okanagan College
 - Updates, deposits, course planning
- UBC
 - Updates re: offers of admission, planning your courses, video tutorials
- Things to Do

[Post Secondary Prep](#)



Check it out

The Grad Council of KSS is introducing a competitive and fun **virtual chess tournament** for beginners and intermediate players from grades 10-12. This virtually-streamed tournament will take place starting on the 28th of April, so make sure to pay attention to the Monday zooms and digital and physical posters to find out more about how to sign up. A select few of these matches will be streamed via Twitch with some entertaining commentary from multiple hosts to allow even students with little to no chess knowledge the ability to be part of the audience. There will also be a chat option with moderators to discuss the matches in real time. The winner of this tournament will get a special prize!



2021 Valedictorian(s)

The valedictorian of a graduating class needs to possess the qualities and beliefs of his/her peers. It is a prestigious opportunity and we welcome your application or nomination.

The successful valedictorian(s) will be:

- A positive role model for their peers and younger students
- A strong representative of the values of a KSS student
- Dedicated to academics and work ethic
- Respected by peers and teachers
- Involved in multiple facets of the school culture



2021 Valedictorian Schedule:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| April 19- | Applications and nominations will be available on the bulletin board outside room 193. |
| April 23- | Nominations due to Ms. Culham in room 193. Nominees will be contacted and asked if they wish to run. |
| April 28- | Applications due to Ms. Culham in room 193 by 3:30pm. Late applications will not be accepted. |
| May 3-7- | All applicants and nominees will receive an interview, and the numbers will be narrowed down to finalists. |
| May 21- | Finalists will present a sample speech in front of a committee of staff and grade 12 students. |

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA UPDATE:

Self-reporting closes on March 15. We have recorded an instructional video to assist students completing this crucial step of the application process. You can find it on YouTube, here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFQhWBd6HWM>

2. Official Transcripts. UVic Undergraduate Admissions will be emailing all BC Applicants in early April instructing them on how to grant the appropriate permissions through the Student Transcript Service on the BC Ministry of Education's website in order to send interim and final transcripts. We will be accessing these grades in mid-May to confirm self-reported grade information and re-evaluate applicants placed on a "hold" status based on their self-reported grades.

Admissions Assistants. When students have specific questions about their application or they would like to inquire about making changes to their application information, they should contact their Admission Assistant. Applicants should receive this contact information in an email they have received from the Undergraduate Admissions office, but their contact information can also be found in our [Admission Assistant Directory](#).

Discover UVic Virtual Presentations. We will be hosting Discover UVic presentations throughout the Spring, which are geared towards grade 10 and 11 students researching their post-secondary options for the future. The presentations will include information on the opportunities available to UVic students, such as programs, campus life and experiential learning opportunities, and we'll discuss what makes UVic the unique place that it is. Registration is available on our [Tours and Events website](#).

Registration 101 Virtual Presentations. We'll be offering these sessions throughout May and June to help admitted students navigate the course selection process. Students will be able to register for these sessions on our [Tours and Events website](#) in April.

Important Deadlines

1. Specific-criteria scholarship application deadline: **April 30**

A reminder that students must accept scholarship offers by the deadline indicated in the scholarship offer email from the Student Awards office. They do not need to have accepted their offer of admission to accept a scholarship. Accepting scholarship offers simply holds that scholarship for students in the event that they do accept their offer of admission.

2. Deadline to accept offer of admission: **May 1**

Some programs have earlier deadlines, and students should review their offer of admission in detail for this information.

3. Online course completion deadline: **May 31**

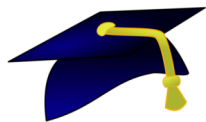
If the online course is one of their admission requirements, it must be 100% complete by May 31.

First year priority housing application deadline: **June 30**





The next **Dry Grad Parent Meeting** is Thursday, April 22nd, at 7:00 pm on Zoom. If you would like to attend and have not previously, please email your name, contact email, and student's name to: kss.pac@sd23.bc.ca We hope to see you there!



Grad Clothing

The third and FINAL grad 2021 clothing order is up and ready for you! The website is open from April 1-18, and items will arrive mid-May at the earliest. Follow this link to order: <https://bit.ly/3dmhZMW>



UBCO HEAT

SUMMER SPORT CAMPS
Running July-August

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Visit goheat.ca/camps or contact ubcoheat.summercamps@ubc.ca for more information.

Get in the game this summer with UBCO sport camps

Led by nationally recognized coaches and student athletes, UBCO's Heat Sport Camps offer a fun-filled week of skill development and game tactics for youths aged 11 to 18. With a focus basketball and volleyball, these camps are a great way to introduce youth to a sport or help them develop skills to improve their game. A low coach to athlete ratio means your child will benefit from personalized feedback and a positive, welcoming learning environment.

Camps are set to run in July and August, and registration is now open. Visit <https://goheat.prestosports.com/Community/Youth/heatcamps> to learn more.

Please note: due to COVID-19, these camps are operating at a restricted capacity. Registration fills up quickly—sign up now to secure your spot!



Parents in Residence are available to provide peer support to all families living in BC and to CASA families in Edmonton, Alberta. We work in community and on-site at BC Children's Hospital's Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre, at Surrey Hospital's Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Stabilization Unit (CAPSU) and at CASA.



PARENT IN RESIDENCE (PiR)

To connect with a FamilySmart Parent in Residence or for more information about our Programs and Services please visit: www.familysmart.ca

Toll Free:
1 (855) 887 8004

Email:
info@familysmart.ca

FamilySmart® is a non-profit that works to enhance the experience and quality of services, support and information for children and youth with mental health challenges, and their families or caring adults.

For families and caregivers who are parenting a child (0 to young adult) with a mental health and/or substance use challenge.

We are here for you and we want to help.

www.familysmart.ca

GRAD COUNCIL PRESENTS

KSS HUMAN LIBRARY


A FANTASTIC WAY TO GET TO KNOW THE GRAD CLASS AND LEARN SOME AWESOME NEW SKILLS!

NOW LAUNCHED!


CHECK OUT
WWW.KSSHUMANLIBRARY.WEBBLY.COM
TO SEE YOUR FELLOW GRADS




Days in session	189 (3 summer Pro Days August 30 - September 1)
Number of days of instruction	182
Number of non-instructional days	7
Schools open	Tuesday, September 7
Administrative Implementation Day	Friday, October 8
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	Monday, October 11
Teacher Professional Day	Friday, October 22
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	Thursday, November 11
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, December 20 – Monday, January 3
Statutory holiday (schools closed)	Monday, January 3
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Tuesday, January 4
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	Friday, February 18
Family Day	Monday, February 21
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, March 21 – Friday, April 1
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Monday, April 4
Good Friday (schools closed)	Friday, April 15
Easter Monday (schools closed)	Monday, April 18
Victoria Day (schools closed)	Monday, May 23
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Thursday, June 30



STEM Leadership Program




Join us as a member of our Summer 2021 Leader-In-Training cohort to develop your leadership skills and learn how to apply technical knowledge to solve social issues! The STEM Leadership Program is open to students from all backgrounds who want to form part of the next generation of STEM Ambassadors and Leaders.


Learn
June - Sept


Spend four full days learning about Geering Up, our program, and all the necessary information you will need to succeed as a Leader-In-Training.

Join weekly development meetings to continue building your knowledge and skills.


Connect
July - Sept


Support our instructors in three week-long camp sessions to gain experience in an educational setting and bring your new skills together.

Meet with mentors such as industry professionals and UBC faculty to learn about pathways into university and STEM fields.


Apply
September


Complete a LIT Social Development Project that undertakes a social issue selected by the cohort.

Finish 150+ hours of volunteering and development.


Engage
Sept - May



Use your experience as a leader to bring STEM programs to your own community.

Opt to join the STEM Leadership Council and assist with GU outreach initiatives throughout the school year, or find your own way to engage with your community and seek solutions to local issues.




Applications Open
April 4th - April 25th

Contact us: volunteer@geeringup.ca
geeringup.ca/stem-leadership-program/

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Applied Science



Boys & Girls Clubs
of the Okanagan

VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB!

**For youth 12-24 years old
of all skill levels!**

Thursdays 4-530pm

- Two \$25 gift card draws daily
- \$100 Gift Bag for all participants
- \$50 gift cards for all on last day

Contact:
cbannow@bgco.ca to join

