SEYCOVE
AT SƏ́Y ƏMƏTƏN
SECONDARY SCHOOL

September 4, 2026

Dear Parents, Guardians, and/or Caretakers of the Class of 2027,

I'm so pleased to welcome our Grade 12 students to the beginning of their final year at Seycove. It is truly an honour to support this group through such a milestone year, and I know it will be filled with memorable moments, meaningful growth, and well-deserved celebrations.

As we begin the year, we also want our Grade 12s to recognize the important role they play as our senior students and leaders within the school. This year, across Seycove, we are placing an increased focus on student ownership and agency. For our Grade 12s, that means taking ownership of their learning, attending regularly and arriving on time, engaging fully in their classes, asking for support when needed, and staying on top of the requirements and deadlines that come with graduation.

At the same time, Grade 12 should be celebrated! We want students to enjoy the traditions, events, friendships, and milestones that make this year so memorable, while continuing to make choices that support their learning, well-being, and future goals.

Safety, Celebrations & Looking Out for One Another

As our Grade 12 students begin this exciting year, we know that some of the most memorable moments will happen beyond the classroom. With the increased independence and opportunities that come with Grade 12 also comes increased responsibility. We want our students to celebrate, have fun, and enjoy this year, while making choices that keep themselves, their friends, and our wider community safe.

As we head into the Labour Day weekend, the North Vancouver RCMP and West Vancouver Police Department have shared specific information with Grade 11 and 12 students and families regarding traditional grad sleep-outs and other gatherings. Their message emphasizes safe and respectful behaviour, responsible decision-making, respect for the environment and community, and the important role families can play in talking openly with their teens about plans, expectations, substance use, transportation, and safety.

RCMP Information: Police urge safe and respectful behaviour ahead of grad sleep-outs:
https://rcmp.ca/en/bc/north-vancouver/news/2026/08/4356395

We want our students to enjoy and celebrate this milestone year. Taking ownership also means looking out for ourselves, looking out for one another, and making choices that allow everyone to get home safely.

Keeping Up with Communication

All Grade 12 students have been added to the Grade 12 2026-2027 MS Team. Important information about graduation activities, deadlines, events, and opportunities will be posted there regularly. Students should check the Team throughout the year, so they do not miss important information.

Please anticipate hearing from me through communications like this a few times throughout the year as dates and more information come up. We will also continue to update the website (currently under construction) with information throughout the year.

Key Dates for 2026-2027

I know many of you are looking forward to the year ahead, and to help with planning, I would like to share the following tentative and confirmed "Save the Dates" with families:

Grade 12 Student Assembly
Friday, September 11th, 2026 – 11:40am
Location: Seycove Cafeteria
Students will be called down

Grade 12 Parent Information Night
Thursday, October 1st, 2026 - 6:00pm
Location: Seycove Cafeteria

Artona Graduation Portraits - Individual Photo Sessions
Friday, December 11th, 2026 – Saturday, December 12th, 2026
Location: Artona Vancouver Studio
Book your studio session here: Calling all Grads of 2027

2026 Grad Winter Boat Cruise
Date: December 10, 2026
Location: Bayshore West Marina
More details to follow

Artona Grad Group Sessions
Mnday, January 18th, 2027
Location: Seycove Cafeteria
Students can sign up online at: artona.com/bookings

2027 Graduation Ceremony
Thursday, June 10th, 2027
Location: Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver
More details to follow

2027 Graduation Dinner and Dance Banquet
Thursday, June 24th, 2027
Location: Pinnacle Hotel at the Pier, North Vancouver
More details to follow

Scholarships Opportunities & Graduation Info

Ms. Erin Madsen is Seycove's Grad Scholarship Coordinator. Throughout the year, she will post scholarship and bursary information, key deadlines, application details, and other important opportunities in the Seycove Scholarships Team. Grade 12 students are strongly encouraged to check the Scholarship Team regularly and to pay close attention to deadlines, as opportunities will be added throughout the year. Families are also encouraged to talk with their students about scholarships, bursaries, and other opportunities that may support their plans after graduation.

Grade 12 Counsellors are Here to Support

Our Grade 12 counsellors, **Ms. Jodi Derkson (Welcome!) and Ms. Ruby Willems**, are key contacts for students and families throughout the Grade 12 year. They are here to help students navigate graduation requirements, course planning, academic progress, post-secondary planning, and any challenges that may arise along the way.

We encourage students and families to **connect early and stay connected throughout the year**. Please do not wait until there is a concern. Regular communication with your counsellor can help ensure students are on track to graduate, aware of important requirements and deadlines, and connected with resources and opportunities that support their post-secondary goals.

Grade 12 Counsellors

- **Ms. Jodi Derkson:** Grade 12 A-K
- **Ms. Ruby Willems:** Grade 12 L-Z

Graduation Requirements and Credits

A reminder that all Grade 12 students are required to complete **three Provincial Graduation Assessments** in order to graduate with a Dogwood. The Literacy 12 Assessment is scheduled for November. Please ensure your student plans accordingly, as this is a necessary step toward graduation. Mr. Ruben will share more information as we get closer to the date, including opportunities for students to complete missed Literacy 10 or Numeracy 10 assessments.
More information about the Graduation Assessments can be found here: Provincial Graduation Assessments

CLC 12 is a required Grade 12 course and must be successfully completed in order to graduate. Please pay close attention to the specific schedules for Ms. Yeo's and Ms. Derkson's CLC 12 classes. CLC 12 includes a combination of scheduled in-person classes and independent learning time throughout the year, so students are responsible for knowing when they are expected to attend and for keeping up with their work between scheduled classes.

CLC 12 culminates in the **Grade 12 Capstone Project,** anticipated to take place in May 2027. Completion of the Capstone is a required component of CLC 12 and an important part of each student's graduation pathway.

Planning for the Costs of Grade 12

As families look ahead, we also want to acknowledge that Grade 12 comes with a number of optional events, celebrations, and experiences that can involve additional costs and become the financial realities of Grade 12. We encourage families to plan ahead where possible.

Some anticipated expenses may include:

- Grad Cruise: approximately $150
- Grad Banquet: approximately $160
- Grad Photos
- Grad clothing and attire: grad clothing, dress/suit, shoes, hair/makeup, nails, etc.
- Additional student-led activities and celebrations
- Grad school fee

Not every student will choose to participate in every opportunity, and costs will vary depending on individual choices. Our goal is always to balance tradition and celebration with accessibility, and we will communicate costs and deadlines as early and clearly as possible throughout the year.

A Message from Ms. Yeo, Grad Council Sponsor

Your Grad Executive Council has been selected for this year (the process took place last May). They are keen to start planning for and representing the Seycove Grads of 2027. Any grade 12 can pop in and listen to Grad Council meetings throughout the year If they're interested – and the Grad Council highly encourages grade 12 input and suggestions at any time.

Thank You – and Gere's to a Great Year Ahead

I am very excited to continue this journey with the Class of 2027. This year will be filled with the challenges of a senior year, paired with much deserved celebrations, and I look forward to supporting each of our grads as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives. This is a special group of students who have already demonstrated their leadership, care, and commitment – and I am thrilled to see this continue in their grade 12 year.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at mdownie@sd44.ca with any questions, concerns, or highlights as we move through this exciting year together.

With excitement and gratitude,

Meghan Downie

Principal of Seycove Secondary at sáyəmətən