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Waterford Valley High

HOME OF THE WARRIORS

Waterford Valley High Cap & Gown Event for Dec. 2018

This year the Cap and Gown event for the Class of 2018 will be held on December 20th, at 10am. WVH has a unique multipurpose area which has the stage area in the center and allows for walls to open up on the cafeteria side and the gymnasium side at the same time. Graduates and their families will be seated in the gym area and our current students will be seated on the cafeteria side.

This decision was made involving a number of stakeholders including students, parents, teachers and school council members. It should be noted that this was discussed at length during the Safe Grad parent meeting in December of 2017. The final decision was unanimously voted on in the January 2018 School Council Meeting.

Rationale:

1. Numbers: Each graduate will be able to invite three guests (and can be waitlisted for additional tickets). Expected numbers would be 200 graduates + 600 guests for a total of 800 in the gym (gym capacity is 1100). We have registered 703 students with a maximum of 500 expected in attendance. Current Grade 12's (200) will sit in the gym with the remaining 300 in the cafeteria.
2. Many of our students attend universities out of province and can only attend this event in December when they return home for Christmas Holidays. It has been recognized that Christmas is a very stressful time of year with many events and activities in the evenings. With lots of notice, many parents felt they could request to get a day (or morning) off to attend this event. It was recognized many other educational institutes hold these types of ceremonies in the day time.
3. All current students would be invited to attend. In the past this event was held almost in 'secrecy' in the evenings where current students had no idea of it's significance. It is agreed that it is of very high educational value for students to see their peers walk across the stage and receive their high school diploma. Current students will be able to visualize themselves walking across the stage and receiving their diploma.
4. Some concerns were discussed with parking as there will be approximately 100 additional vehicles on our lot. It was noted that by being proactive and having traffic directors on site, WVH can accommodate this.
5. It should be noted that one of our former school, Bishops College, hosted Cap and Gown during the daytime from 2012 til the school closed had much positive feedback. There were a few concerned parents that had to rearrange work schedules to get the day off but many countered that taking a day off during the Christmas season was beneficial.

WVH has a working, shared document to help organize all logistics. A thorough review will be done after the event to decide future direction. If you have any questions please contact bridgetricketts@nlesd.ca