

September 30, 2009

Dear Parents:

Recognition Ceremonies 2010 are scheduled for June 5, 2010. This is an important event in the lives of our Grade 12 students and for this reason Advisors, Mrs. Pedersen and Mr. Pirie, will meet with the Grade 12's to outline what Recognition Day looks like at Strathmore High School. Our Recognition Ceremony consists of two parts both of which are held at the school.

Grade 12's who are eligible to graduate, participate in a ceremony held at the school beginning at 1 pm. This ceremony which sees both students and teachers dressed in their academic gowns consists of speeches from various dignitaries and presentation of the certificates. This ceremony should be concluded by 3 pm. Students are asked to return to the school by 4:30 pm for their formal group picture. After the picture, students and parents have a choice as to what venue they would like to attend for a meal as there is no school organized banquet. Last year, students and parents had a celebratory meal at local restaurants, churches, homes, Calgary venues and some attended a parent organized meal at the Family Centre in Strathmore. There are many options for families to avail themselves. A parent organized supper is again being planned and information is outlined in their letter which is included.

We have had a few parents asking about a meeting to consider having the banquet as a formal part of the school's celebration. Last year, we decided that we were no longer going to host a banquet; instead, we wanted to host an evening social for our students which was much cheaper and more accessible for students. It was a huge success and will be even better this year once we make a few changes and improvements. Those who wish to be involved in organizing and/or attending a community banquet should contact those outlined in their attached letter. We did meet with a few parents who want to organize a banquet and agreed to provide what assistance we could. **However, we want to make sure that students and parents realize they should choose a meal venue that works best for them.**

The second part of our day begins at 8 pm. The Evening Celebration will consist of a Grand March, Tributes, Year in Review and a dance. The Grade 12 Students Committee may want to include other activities. A photographer will be present throughout the evening for those who want family or sweetheart photos and refreshments will be provided.

Students are encouraged to get involved in planning and organizing the event. We are hoping for at least 15 students to form a volunteer committee that will meet lunch hours in Room 116 on Wednesdays. All

students are welcome to attend at anytime. Safe Grad is not discussed at any of our meetings and the school has nothing to do with it. If they choose to have a Christmas dance, this student committee will be contacting parents to help supervise and bring food.

There are many opportunities for parents and students to be involved with the preparation for the Recognition Ceremonies. If you are interested in helping with the school events, contact Mr. Pirie or Mrs. Pedersen at 403-934-3135. Included is an outline of important dates and events as well as an explanation of the eligibility requirements and process. We will be mailing another letter to you in April with more details and reminders.

Yours truly,

Mr. Reagan

Mrs. Pedersen

Mr. Pirie