

February 5, 2010

Dear Grade 12 Parent:

We are writing this letter to clarify for all parents and students, Strathmore High School's position regarding Grad this year and to address any confusion that may have resulted from a recent article in local newspapers by a parent group organizing a meal. As stated in our October 7th letter to you, our "Recognition Day consists of two parts, both of which are held at the school." On the afternoon of June 5th is our Ceremony and in the evening is our Celebration. The school is **not** involved in any organized meal. We want to provide parents and students with the opportunity to choose the meal venue that is most appropriate for their family. The grad fee for each student is approximately \$25.00 and covers costs for printing, decorations at the school, all rental fees, and gown maintenance. This fee will also ensure that all students will not need to pay admittance to evening celebrations.

A committee of Grade 12 students is busy planning the evening Celebration at the school which will include all the traditional events of past graduations at Strathmore High School such as the Grand March, toasts, and a dance. A photographer is booked to provide family and sweetheart photos throughout the evening and refreshments will be served in the Community Centre. Our aim is to make this event as affordable as possible. Last year, the cost was \$10 per person with children under 12 free and all Grade 12's were free. We anticipate that the cost could be less this year.

We are concerned that some Grade 12 parents and students may be confused by information concerning a meal taking place on June 5th that is being organized by some parents. There was information in the local papers about a Grand March, toasts to parents and students, and a photographer being present. We do not want parents and students to feel that by not attending the parent organized meal they will miss out on any school events. It is not sanctioned by Strathmore High School nor is it supported in anyway by the Grad Student Committee. Administration and teachers of Strathmore High School will not be attending this meal in an official capacity as not all our graduates will be there and our aim at our evening Celebration is to recognize all students in our Grad Class. Last year, many students chose to attend church gatherings, others went to restaurants or attended meals at home with family and friends.

The Grad Committee is meeting weekly to plan for the Recognition Ceremonies and evening Celebrations. We will mail one more formal letter to you in April with the last details. We look forward to seeing you at the Recognition Ceremonies on June 5th. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Pirie or Mrs. Pedersen.

Mr. Pirie

Mrs. Pedersen

Mr. Reagan