



Dr. Charles Best Secondary GRAD 2025 Newsletter

Issue 1 – September 19, 2024



2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3J 3R8 604-461-5581

Website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/charlesbest/Pages/default.aspx>

Principal – David Cyr

Vice-Principals – Kelly Fridge, Tara Sutherland and Michael Viveiros

Our school goal is to develop a culture of connectedness and belonging within the school, among school staff, students, and our parent community, in order to enhance opportunities for collaborative partnerships.

UPCOMING EVENTS

School Pro D Day (students do not attend)	Friday, Sept 20
PAC Parent Meeting (7:00pm Library)	Monday, Sept 23
Spirit Week	Monday Sept 23-Friday, Sept 27
AfterGrad Meeting (7:00pm Library)	Wednesday, Sept 25
2025 Grad Merchandise Orders Due-no late orders accepted	Sunday, Sept 29
Truth & Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day) Assembly (Assembly Bell schedule)	Friday, Sept 27
Truth and Reconciliation Day (School not in session)	Monday, Sept 30
Scholarship Meeting #1 (3:30 School Library)	Thursday, Oct 3
Dress Your Best	Friday, Oct 4
Senior Sail	Wednesday, Oct 9
Dress Your Best	Friday, Oct 11
Thanksgiving Day (School not in session)	Monday, Oct 14
Learning Updates out (Progress reports)	Wednesday Oct 16
Photo Retakes	Thursday, Oct 17
Dress Your Best	Friday, Oct 18
Post Secondary Day	Tuesday, Oct 22
Deadline to apply for Language Challenge Exams	Tuesday, Oct 22
Parent – Teacher Interviews (In-person and on Teams)	Wednesday, Oct 23
Grade 12 Parent Information Meeting (School Library @ 6:45pm)	Wednesday, Oct 23
Provincial Pro D Day (School not in session)	Friday, Oct 25
Autumn Music Concert 7:00pm	Wednesday, Oct 30
School Assembly (Assembly Bell Schedule)	Thursday, Oct 31
Provincial Assessments (select students)	Nov 6 - Nov 8 (schedule TBD)
Take Your Kids to Work (Gr 9 only)	Wednesday, Nov 6
Midterm Reports Published (MYED Portals)	Thursday, Nov 7
Grad Photos	
Grad Friendship Photos	Monday, Jan 27/Tuesday, Jan 28

**Please see additional dates for post-secondary visits, CLC due dates, scholarship deadlines & Grad Photos in the body of this newsletter

Dear Families of the Graduating Class of 2025,

It feels like just yesterday that your children were starting their high school journey, and now, here we are with only two semesters left before they graduate. Time truly flies, and this final stretch is both exciting and crucial.

As we enter these last two semesters, it's important for our students to stay organized and make the most of every moment. This is a time to savor the experiences, friendships, and achievements that will shape their memories of high school. It is also incredibly important for students and families to stay on top of all that is happening for our grad class. Regular reminders will be sent out using the school day APP, in the Informer and for our grad parents we will be sending out a couple of Grad Newsletters as well.

I also want to remind you to carefully read through the post-secondary information we provide. The application process can be complex, and your support will be invaluable to your children as they navigate their next steps. Whether it's college, university, or another path, being well-informed and prepared is key. There are funds out there to help with Post Secondary and you do not want to miss out.

A reminder that the Senior Sail is on **October 9th** this year. There are a limited number of tickets – first come first served! Login to your School CashOnline account to get tickets now.

This is a significant year for so many reasons, please stay connected to your child and their school. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact their counsellor or administrator.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Let's make this final year at Charles Best Secondary truly memorable!

Warmest regards,
Dave Cyr
Principal Dr. Charles Best Secondary School

GRAD MERCHANDISE



We are pleased to offer our 2025 Grads merchandise just for them!
Orders are **Due Sunday, September 29th 11:59pm.**

NO LATE ORDERS will be accepted.

Orders are expected to arrive at the end of October.

At left is a couple of sample products available in the store.

There are more colours and styles available.

The link to your grad store is below:

[STUDENT STORE](#) or use the following URL

<https://cbspiritstore.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

GRADE 12 PARENTS... COME HELP PLAN THIS YEAR'S AFTERGRAD!!



The first planning meeting for this awesome event will be held at 7pm on **Wednesday September 25th** in the school library. Come see how you can help make your child's grad night loads of fun!

For more information, email bestgrad2025@gmail.com or scan this QR code to join the Best AfterGrad 2025 info mailing list and stay informed on all things AfterGrad!



SENIOR SAIL

Grads, we are very pleased to let you know we have booked the ship for our Senior Sail on **Wednesday, October 9th**. The cost of this event is \$85 and includes transportation to and from the event.

Grads meet at Dr. Charles Best at 4:00 pm. Meet in the gym and get organized to get into the buses waiting to take us Downtown Vancouver. We will be cruising aboard the Queen of Diamonds. Grads will dance with their friends to the tunes supplied by a DJ. Pizza and pop will be supplied but you might want to eat something between after school and the cruise. We will cruise around Vancouver Harbour for 3 hours and then load back onto the buses and travel back to Dr. Charles Best. We should be back to Best between 10:30 and 10:45 pm depending on traffic etc.

How do I purchase a ticket? Go to School Cash On-line (on our website same place you pay your fees)

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/> There are a limited number of tickets as the boat has a limited capacity. Tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis. Commencement fees and Student Activity fees must be paid prior to this item being available.

Can I bring a guest? No this is for 2025 Dr. Charles Best Grads only due to capacity limitations.

Do I have to ride the bus, or can I drive myself? You must take the bus. You can only go if you ride the bus. It's fun! We can sing!

What should I wear? The dress code is semi formal. Not too fancy. It's a night out. It's a special grad activity and you will want to take lots of pictures so dress appropriately. But also, be comfortable. You are travelling on a bus, dancing, eating, going up and down stairs on a moving boat so wear comfortable shoes. There are two floors to hang out and dance and then a top floor that is outside so you might want to bring a coat to wear outside. There is nowhere to store a bag and the security at the docks will check your coats and all bags. Please do not bring any backpacks or bags. (small cross body bags are ok but will also be searched)

This is a school function. All school rules and the District Code of Conduct apply. Please do not make foolish choices on this evening. The company supplies Security who will check every grad. If they find any drugs, alcohol, vapes or weapons they will be confiscated, and you will be sent home at your parents' expense. You cannot vape, smoke or drink on the boat. Please be aware that if you chose to not abide by the rules, you will not be refunded and you will not be able to attend the Grad Dinner Dance in June. You are risking quite a lot – please factor that into your decision making for this event.

The safety and security of all our participants who attend this event is our highest priority. Also, our reputation in the community. Please help us preserve our outstanding reputation and I guarantee you will have more fun as well.

If you have any medical alerts that could relate to this activity, please contact Ms. Fridge kfridge@sd43.bc.ca.

Any questions or concerns- contact Mr. Cyr dycr@sd43.bc.ca (principal)

All Aboard!

SAVE THE DATES!

DINNER DANCE/AFTER GRAD will be held on **Saturday, June 14th 6:00 pm** at the Fairmont Waterfront Vancouver. The cost of tickets for this will be assessed and published at a later date.

COMMENCEMENT will be held **Tuesday, June 24th 6:00pm** at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby.

Grad Commencement Fee is \$65 and is available on School CashOnline accounts <https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/>.

This fee covers the cost of your Grad Commencement Gown (royal blue), V-stole, cap and 2025 tassel. You keep all these items. The fee also includes the cost of the Grad Certificate folders, rental costs for S.F.U, flowers, decorations, tickets, programs, and other related costs. Payment of this fee orders your Grad Gown – you just need to provide your height information when you are paying the fee on school cash online. If you have any issues with this grad related fee, please speak to your VP asap. Thank you.

GRADE 12 PARENT NIGHT

Wednesday, October 23rd @ 6:45pm in the school library.

Parents, this informational meeting is being held on the same date as Parent Teacher Interviews.

Please plan on attending this popular presentation as counsellors will be discussing post-secondary, applying to post-secondary, and high school graduation timelines. Note: if you plan on attending, plan your parent-teacher interviews so that you can be available for the parent meeting.

GRAD PHOTOS – DEC. 8-22



Please use this QR code to book 2025 Grad photos with Artona photo company. Artona will have their photo trailer on school site in the upper parking lot for convenience from December 8-22. At the time of booking there will be a \$60.00 refundable deposit which can be used towards the purchase of any products or refunded if no order is placed. Grads will receive a complimentary 5x7 Commencement photograph and 5x7 Dinner Dance photo. In addition, as part of this year's \$65 grad fee, graduates will receive a composite folder containing the Grad Class of 2025 photo.

***PLEASE NOTE-even if you have no plans to purchase a photo package, all grads are expected to have their picture taken (no charge) for the yearbook and composite photo.**

GRAD FRIENDSHIP PHOTOS



Celebrate Grad with your crew! Artona is offering mini sessions

on January 27th and January 28th for up to 6 people which includes 4 high-resolution digital

images. Scan the QR code for more information.

GRADE 12 STUDENT SURVIVAL GUIDE

Counsellors will be presenting to all grade 12's during the school day between October 1st – 3rd about post-secondary institutions, the application process, and graduation timelines.

This presentation will be replicated at the Grade 12 parent meeting in the evening of Parent Teacher interviews on October 23rd.

YEARBOOKS

Every year the yearbook sells out and we highly encourage all grade 12s to buy a copy. It is the one Yearbook a student often wants to have as a keepsake for the future. Grads often have baby picture pages, clubs and teams pages and superlatives results. Grads will have their Grad picture displayed as well as a Grad comment. We will send out a form in the upcoming months for grads to submit their Yearbook Comment. The cost is \$55 and is currently available in School CashOnline accounts. <https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/>

STUDENT PARKING PERMITS

Student parking is limited this year. 125 parking spots will be available for students in the upper parking lot. Priority will be given to Grade 12 students first. To register, students should have already registered and submitted their form to the main office and shown proof of an "N" license. If you require a permit and have not yet registered, please pick up a registration form from the office. Currently we have 25 spots remaining. Once a parking permit is issued students **MUST** display their permit in their vehicle otherwise, they run the risk of their vehicle being towed.

STUDENT TRANSCRIPT SERVICES PRESENTATION - (PSI)

This presentation will show students how to order their transcripts from the Ministry of Education online. This is typically the second required step as part of a post-secondary application process (the first step being the submission of the actual application). A university or college cannot directly access marks from the Ministry as this is confidential information so students will need to give permission to release their marks to the post-secondary institution to which they are applying. ****Student Transcript Service (STS) Presentations: Tue/ Wed/ Thu, November 5 – 7** (during class time, details TBA)

PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENTS & CAREER EDUCATION

To graduate, students must complete:

- CLE 10
- CLC 12
- 3 Provincial Assessments:
 - **Literacy 10** – most students wrote this in Gr 10
 - **Numeracy 10** - most students wrote this in Gr 10
 - **Literacy 12** – All grade 12 students will write the Literacy 12 assessment during the week of January 20-24th.
 - More detailed information, date/time/location to come.

**** If you are missing any of the above graduation requirements, please immediately email our records secretary Kym Thibault at kthibault@sd43.bc.ca or VP Kelly Fridge at kfridge@sd43.bc.ca to remedy the situation.**

CAREER LIFE CONNECTIONS 12 (CLC 12)

CAREER LIFE CONNECTIONS 12 (CLC 12) is required for graduation. It is a full-year, graded, 4-credit course delivered in a blended/hybrid model using Microsoft Teams, 1:1 meetings, and small group workshops. The goal of CLC12 is to promote experiential activities that prompt examination of career-life roles, planning cycles, and decision-making models. Throughout the course, students will engage in one-on-one mentorship with teachers and reflect regularly on their passions, interests, talents, and successes. Face-to-face support for CLC12 is provided daily in room 309. Students should read the course outline on the "General page" of their Team and follow the instructions for assignment number one, also posted in Teams.

**IMPORTANT CLC12 Dates:

Sept. 30 – Capstone proposal is due. Support is available in every period of every day, room 309.

Oct. 1 – Sign-up is open for Workshop #1 (Career planning)

Oct. 7 to 18 – Workshop #1 (Career planning)

Oct. 28 – Sign-up is open for Capstone check-in meeting

Nov. 4 to 22nd – Face-to-face, one-on-one Capstone check-in meeting with a CLC12 Teacher (room 309)

Jan 2025 – Capstone Presentation Day (exact day/times to be determined).

LANGUAGE CHALLENGE EXAMS

The Delta School District is offering language challenge exams for the 2024/2025 school year. This exam can account for credits and meet the language 11 post-secondary entry requirements for UBC and SFU (this exam will test students on their ability to read, write and speak in this language). Many students who have taken these challenge exams in the past are students who are in the French Immersion Program and wish to use this opportunity to possibly obtain a high grade for one of their grade 12 classes for the purpose of postsecondary entry requirements. We also have students who take this exam for the sole purpose of meeting the grade 11 language requirement for postsecondary entry into UBC and SFU, but students must be proficient in the language if they wish to pursue this challenge exam, as these tests are rigorous and proof of how they obtained the knowledge will be required.

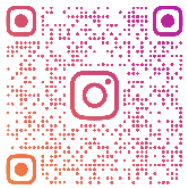
**All universities in Canada accept Language Challenge exam marks. UBC accepts Challenge credits for pre-requisite requirements for courses and second-language requirements but does not accept Challenge marks as part of the GPA calculation for admission. It is highly recommended that you check with your intended university for their admissions requirements.

Interested students please refer to [Challenge Exams - Delta School District \(deltasd.bc.ca\)](https://deltasd.bc.ca) for further information on the student application package, exam schedules, locations, and exam specific details. Students are required to **provide a passport quality photograph as part of the application package.**

Deadline for applications this year is **Tuesday, October 22nd**. If students miss this deadline, they will not be able to apply this year and will have to wait until next year to reapply. **Please submit your applications to Ms. Birsan in the counselling suite.** See Ms. Birsan if you have any questions!

POST-SECONDARY & CAREER ADVISOR ON SITE AT CHARLES BEST

- Ms. Kaufmann at the Career Office is available to help with any questions related to post-secondary programs and the admissions process. No appointment needed, drop-in Monday to Friday, 9 am to 3.30 pm. Students can also get help with the Student Transcript Service, the self-reporting process, scholarships, and more. Parents can contact Ms. Kaufmann at skaufmann@sd43.bc.ca. Check out the Career Centre website for the latest updates on upcoming post-secondary events, scholarship deadlines, and other opportunities. In addition to recruiting events at Charles Best, many colleges and universities will be offering program-specific info sessions, application workshops and open houses. Check back often. The Career Centre is also on Instagram [@bestcareercentre](https://www.instagram.com/bestcareercentre).



BESTCAREERCENTRE

UPCOMING POST SECONDARY VISITS

POST-SECONDARY VISITS @Best

Thu, Sep 26	Western - Ivey HBA Info Session for SD43 7 pm on Zoom	Tue, Oct 29	Queen's University Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library
Wed, Oct 2	University of Victoria Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library	Tue, Nov 5	UVic Engineering & CompSci Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library
Tue, Oct 8	University of Calgary Meet the recruiter and ask your questions. 3 - 3.45 pm, main foyer	Wed, Nov 13	SFU Beedie School of Business Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library
Thu, Oct 10	University of Alberta Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library	Thu, Nov 14	UVic Gustavson School of Business Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library
Thu, Oct 17	University of Toronto Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library	Tue, Nov 19	SFU Meet the recruiter and ask your questions. 3.15 - 3.45 pm, main foyer
Thu, Oct 24	Western Meet the recruiter and ask your questions. 3 - 3.45 pm, main foyer	Wed, Nov 20	University of Waterloo Recruiter presentation and Q&A 3.15 pm, library
Your chance to connect with recruiters and get all your questions answered!		Thu, Nov 21	University of Guelph Meet the recruiter and ask your questions. 3 - 3.45 pm, main foyer

Additional recruiter visits will be added throughout the year.
Keep checking back to the Career Centre website, Informer, or newsletter.

POST-SECONDARY DAY - There will be more than 15 post-secondary institution for across BC presenting to all grade 11 and 12 students in the morning. Students will need to attend 2 presentations. This will be followed by a mini-fair where students will have access to advisors from all institutions.

Tuesday, October 22nd.

**Unfortunately, UBC will not be visiting individual schools this year, but they are offering virtual application workshops and other information sessions.

Dates and registration info on the [UBC website](https://www.ubc.ca) or the [Career Centre](https://www.bestcareercentre.com).

POST SECONDARY EVENTS

UBC APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

Grade 12s wanting to apply to UBC are encouraged to attend. Learn more about the application process and what the Personal Profile is all about. A variety of sessions is being offered between now and end of the year. Sign up early as seats tend to fill up. [More info](#).

CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES EVENT (CUE)

CUE is hosting two public events this fall. Students and their supporters can chat with university representatives from all across the country, ask questions, pick up viewbooks, and make connections. Prepare for the event by exploring university profiles ahead of time.

Monday, September 23, 2024: Burnaby, Hilton Metro Vancouver – 6:30pm – 9:00pm.

Thursday, September 26, 2024: Surrey, Westfield Country Club - 6:30pm – 9:00pm.

In addition, CBSS students are invited to attend the SD43-only CUE at Heritage Woods Secondary on **September 24th from 8:30 – 11:00am**. Parents can excuse their student from class(es) and arrange their own transportation.

DOUGLAS COLLEGE INFO SESSION

Program-specific info sessions led by faculty members. Learn about admission, co-op, university transfer, and more.

Tue, September 24th. <https://www.douglascollege.ca/future-students/explore-douglas/information-sessions>

STUDY IN THE UK FAIR

Meet representatives from over 40 UK universities at the largest UK University Fair in Western Canada. SFU Harbour Centre, Vancouver. **Tue, Sept 24, 3-7 pm**. Students can apply for a three-year Law degree in the UK, directly out of high school, as well as Medicine, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Veterinary Science, and more. [Study in UK website](#)

NATIONAL PORTFOLIO DAY

Launch your future in art and design. Visit with counselors, admissions team members, and faculty from art and design schools for a free portfolio review before applying to colleges or universities. [Virtual](#): **Sept 28 | Nov 1 | Nov 17 | Dec 8**. [In-person](#) at Emily Carr University of Arts & Design: **Nov 16**. Register to attend.

BCIT BIG INFO

This BCIT Open House is your chance to find out about all BCIT programs – from business and media, computing and IT, engineering, health sciences, trades and apprenticeships, and applied and natural sciences. [Register to join in person](#) on **Wed, October 9, 4-7 pm**, at the Burnaby Campus.

EDUCATION PLANNER BC WEBINAR FOR SD43

Parents, guardians and students in grades 10-12 are invited on **Wed, October 30, 6.30-7.45 pm**. Learn how you can help support your student in planning for their future. The information will be especially helpful for SD43 families with students in Grades 10-12. [Registration is required](#). Topics covered:

- B.C.'s post-secondary education landscape, including institutions and credentials
- Programs, admission requirements, and application dates
- Costs of post-secondary and financial aid options
- Career exploration resources, including Find Your Path
- Using My List to save and compare programs
- Applying for admission through EducationPlannerBC

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

SCHOLARSHIP MEETING #1

- Scholarship Meeting #1 (General information for students looking for financial aid to pay for post-secondary) **Thursday, October 3rd** after school.
- Scholarship Meeting #2 (Introduction of the school's internal scholarship package): **Wednesday, February 12th**, after school.

U OF T BOOK AWARD/ NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

New: Only Book award nominees can apply to University of Toronto's National Scholarship program (tuition, residence, etc. for up to 4 years). Criteria: Demonstrated superior academic performance, original and creative thought, and exceptional achievement in a broad context. Strong involvement in the school/ community. Only valid at U of T. Submit your Book Award Brag Sheet **by Sunday, September 29**. [More info](#).

LESTER B. PEARSON INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

We are looking for one international student to become our nominee for U of T's Pearson International Scholarship. Are you intending to begin your studies at U of T in September 2025? You should be a creative thinker with an exceptional academic record who is recognized as a leader within our school and exhibits the potential to contribute positively to the global community in the future. If you want to be considered for nomination, [submit our "Pearson International Scholarship Brag Sheet"](#) to skaufmann@sd43.bc.ca **by Sunday, October 6, end of day**.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION CONTINUED

LORAN SCHOLARSHIPS

More than just a scholarship, the Loran Award offers a four-year leadership-enrichment program, financial support of more than \$100,000 (36x), and diverse opportunities for experiential learning. Offered in partnership with 25 Canadian universities. Applicants must have demonstrated outstanding service and leadership and an 85%+ average. Additionally, up to 54 x \$6,000 Finalist Awards and up to 70 x \$3,000 Provincial Awards are available. **Deadline: October 15.** [Details here.](#)

TD SCHOLARSHIP FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Have you shown leadership in helping to make a meaningful and lasting difference in your community? You could be eligible for up to \$70,000 for tuition and living expenses as well as opportunities for paid summer employment, peer networking and mentorship. Must have an average of 75%+. [Apply here](#) by **November 13.**

PAC CORNER

Upcoming PAC meeting: Monday, September 23rd at 7:00 pm in the school library. Administration will be present to provide a school update and answer any questions. All parents are welcome!

Did you know? You can DONATE TO THE PAC ONLINE!

Parent donations to the Charles Best PAC help to support various aspects of your student's educational experience. Each year, the PAC provides much-needed funds to support activities such as extracurricular clubs, AfterGrad, teacher appreciation, and student scholarships. Login to your School CashOnline account to make your PAC donation today!

