

ESBCHS GRAD 2026

Parent/Guardian Meeting
December 3, 2026



TEACHER GRAD COMMITTEE

- Co-Chairs: Mr. Sean Flanagan & Mrs. Kristi Nelson
- Subcommittees comprised of many dedicated staff members



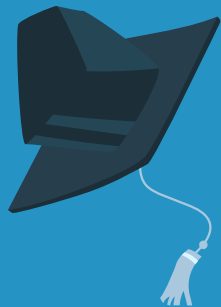
THE PLAN

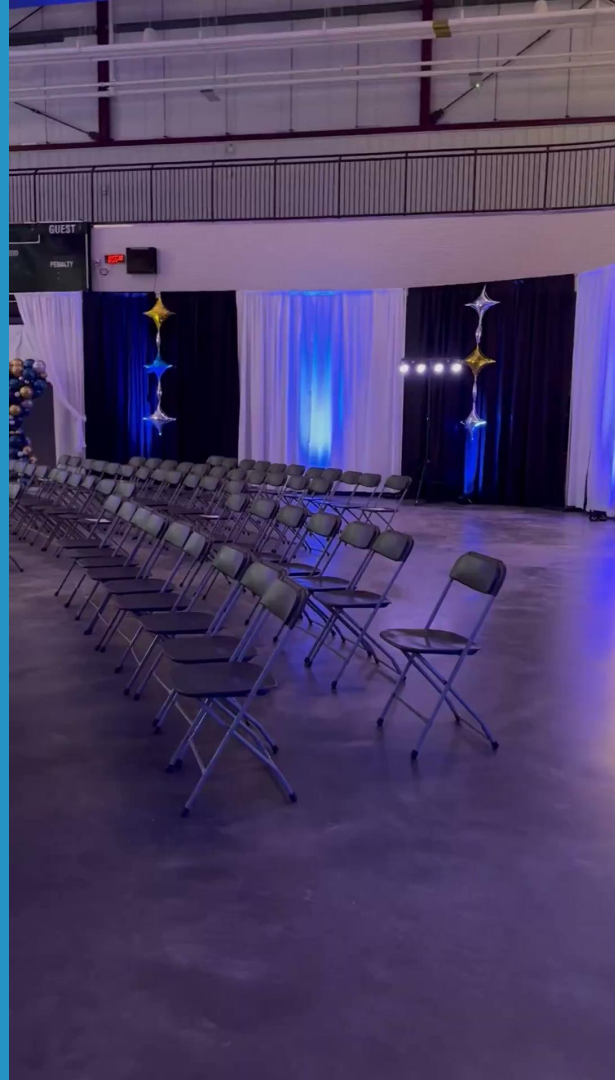
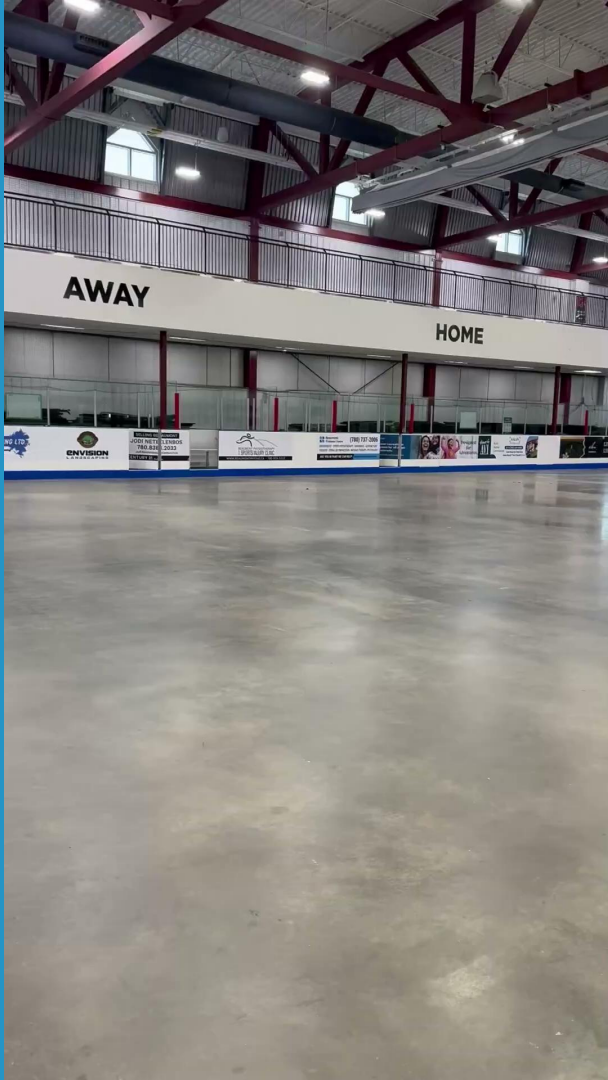
Beaumont Sport & Recreation Centre
Field House

Saturday, June 6, 2026

Ceremony 10:00am & 1:00pm

Formal 7:30pm







CEREMONY

We have ~388 grade 12's
eligible to participate



- Each graduate will be allowed a limited number of guests (to be determined); the event will live-streamed so others may watch from home
- Students of the graduating class are welcome to watch the alternate ceremony from the upper mezzanine
- There will be a one hour window between the two ceremonies for crossover of the two groups. At that time friends and families can meet OUTSIDE for photos.
- The ceremony portion of the day will hopefully be done by no later than 3:00 pm to provide students and families over 4 hours for group photos, larger family gatherings and meals between the ceremony and formal event.



Commencement Ceremony Criteria

- Must be a grade 12 student who has not participated in a previous commencement ceremony.
- Adhere to the [ESBCHS Student Code of Conduct](#) as well as Section 31 of the Province of Alberta School Act.
 - Section 31 of the Province of Alberta's *Education Act* states that a student has the responsibility to:
- attend school regularly and punctually
- be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently
- pursue the student's education,
- ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging, respect the rights of others in the school,
- refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means,
- comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board,
- cooperate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services,
- be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct, and
- positively contribute to the student's school and community.
- Must be a Student in Good-Standing
 - Enrolled as a student at ESBCHS.
 - Minimum of 60 credits by the end of Semester 1 of their grade 12 year.
 - Adherent to the conditions of a School Probation letter (if one exists)
- Pay all school fees in full by November 1st of the current school year.
- Pay Graduation fees in full by May 31st of the current school year.

Alpha group counsellors will review each grade 12 student's progress in achieving their Alberta High School Diploma or Certificate of Achievement. Counsellors will send administrators a list of students with shortfalls and administrators will issue letters to parents/students. The letters will only be regarding diploma/certificate requirements and are completely separate from participation in the commencement ceremony.

VALEDICTORIAN

Valedictorian Criteria

Calculations are based on six academic courses. Courses that are required are as follows:

Column A	Column B
English Language Arts 30-1	Math 30-2
Social Studies 30-1	Math 30-1
French Language Arts 30-1	Math 31
	Science 30
	Chemistry 30
	Biology 30
	Physics 30

All students must include:

- one course from Column A (Top Humanities) and
- one course from Column B (Top Math/Science) and
- four additional courses listed in the table above.

For any diploma course that has been completed, the blended mark will be used in the calculation. For courses that are still in progress, the current course mark will be used. If a student completed a diploma course at another school, the diploma mark will be used in the calculation and not the blended mark.

The average will be calculated at the end of quarter three, using completed course marks and midterm marks for semester two courses. The valedictorian should also represent Ecole Secondaire Beaumont Composite High School's core values and be in good standing with the school.

SALUTATORIAN

The designation of Salutatorian for the graduating class each year is given to a grade 12 student who excels in the following areas:

- Student is in good academic standing and has acted in accordance with the ESBCHS Code of Conduct.
- Student demonstrates strong public speaking ability.
- Student is involved in the school beyond the classroom setting (has extra-curricular involvement).
- Student demonstrates friendliness, courtesy, respect for and acceptance of others.



CLASS OF 2026 FORMAL

- Ticketed event (grad + one guest)
- Start & End Time 7:30-11:00 pm
- Single entry (can't leave and return)
- Live DJ
- Light snacks (no sit down meal)
- Photo backdrops
- Security + volunteer supervisors



GRAD FEE INFORMATION

There will be one grad fee for each participating student that will include:

- Gown & stole rental
- Keeper cap & tassel
- Guest tickets to the ceremony (number TBD)
- Live streaming services
- Event decor
- Graduate & one guest tickets to the formal
- DJ services at formal
- Private security at formal

*Fee is not yet set but will be posted on PowerSchool once finalized



STUDENT INPUT & VOTING

All graduating students are encouraged to attend monthly grad meetings (our first one was yesterday). This is where student suggestions are shared. Voting opportunities are posted on Google Classroom. Student input is sought for:

- Decor choices
- Grad hoodie designs
- Grad song
- MC nominations



POSSIBLE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Set up of BSRC on Friday
- Formal supervision (7pm - 11pm)
- Take down of BSRC on Sunday





THINGS THE SCHOOL IS **NOT** INVOLVED IN PLANNING OR COMMUNICATING

Transportation

Outdoor photos
(ie: Legislature Ground Photos)

Safe Grad

Banquet

Theme Week

PARTICIPATION & INFORMATION COLLECTION

An email will be sent to parents/guardians Thursday, December 4th **(tomorrow)** with a Google Form that will need to be completed for each graduating student. Information from parents will include:

- Declaration of student participation in the ceremony
- Name to be printed on the school awarded certificate (this is not an official diploma/certificate)
- Phonetic pronunciation of name
- Student height, for gown sizing
- Willingness to volunteer



COMMON QUESTIONS

Q. Why not combine the class into one ceremony; how many guest could each grad have if it was combined?

A. ESBCHS is committed to keeping the commencement ceremony a local event for each grad. A combined ceremony would be 3-4 hours long. Due to fire code regulations, if the ceremonies were combined, each grad would only be allowed 2 guests at the BSRC. Many grads have more than 2 family members they would want to attend.

Q. What happens at the ceremony?

A. The ceremony is where students wear their cap and gown, have their names announced, cross the stage and receive their school awarded certificates. Grade 12 awards are announced and handed out at this time as well. There are speeches from Mr. Flanagan (Principal), a Black Gold School Division representative, a City of Beaumont representative as well as our class valedictorian and salutatorian.

COMMON QUESTIONS?

Q. It is a long day for the kids, why not split it into two days?

A. BGSD's joint user agreement with the City of Beaumont only allows for a single day event. We only have room in the budget for the rental of the draping, chairs, tables etc. that we require to transform the fieldhouse for a one day celebration. We rely very heavily on staff support to be able to put on such large events. The school organizes the ceremony and formal. We also recognize that students still have diplomas to write after the celebration therefore we try to limit their studying disruptions.

Q. What should students wear under the grad gowns for the ceremony?

A. This is completely a personal choice. Some students will wear their full formal attire for the entire day. Some will wear a different outfit for the ceremony and change for the formal. It is entirely up to your child. It is warm with the gown and cap, so many students will wear a light, shorter dress or a collared shirt and tie without the jacket for the ceremony.

COMMON QUESTIONS?

Q. When are grad photos?

A. Grad photos are taken here at ESBCHS. Booking is done online and information will be sent via email tomorrow. There is a sitting fee that must be paid to the photographers the day of. Students are welcome to get their photos done with a different photographer outside of the school, we just ask that a digital copy of that photo is supplied to the school.

Q. What about having the ceremony on the football field?

A. The football field does not have a stage or enough bleachers at this time. We are not allowed to set up chairs or a stage on the field due to the artificial turf. Weather is also a very big deterrent to hosting an outdoor event.

QUESTIONS?



FURTHER QUESTIONS:

Email Address:

esbchs.grad@blackgold.ca



This presentation and all grad related
information can be found on our website at
<https://esbchs.blackgold.ca/students/graduation/>

