



GRAD CEREMONY

Rationale

One of our outlined goals is to increase our graduation rate. Our rate could be increased by lowering standards or expectations. At Mount Boucherie we are committed to not only achieving a high graduation rate but also developing graduates who are best prepared to enter into their post-graduate endeavours. We believe to achieve this we must clearly articulate our expectations to our staff, students, and communities. The movement to a more global economy and the emphasis on 21st century skills prompted us to develop a clear set of expectations for our students..

Although a student who meets ministry standards is entitled to a high school graduation (for standards go to Ministry of Education website), Mount Boucherie has established the following expectations for graduates who want to participate in graduation events. In essence we believe these to be the minimum standard for our graduates:

Graduate Standards

In addition to the Ministry of Education standards for graduation, a Mount Boucherie graduate must meet the following criteria to participate in the scheduled graduation events:

- a) Demonstrate a good work ethic by not having more than 2 N's on any report card issued in each year of high school, and by not having any referrals for chronic tardiness or attendance
- b) Maintain a debt-free standing with respect to school fees and materials unless arrangements have been made with a school administrator.
- c) Demonstrate social awareness and provide support through service to the school when requested.
- d) Avoids violations of the school's code of conduct or demonstrates a willingness to re-establish compliance when a violation occurs. Has no more than 2 definite suspensions during high school term.

Each student's academic, & work ethic record will be communicated to parents during regular reporting timelines. Students in an "at risk" situation will be flagged and followed up on by a case review team member. The onus will be on the school and the parent to assist the student in maintaining the expectations to graduate.

In the final year of high school each student's "potential to graduate" will be reviewed by his counsellor. In situations where there is a concern, the counsellor will meet with the student to address concerns through the development of a plan. In addition, the counsellor will inform the student's Vice Principal, who will make sure the student's parent is made aware of the situation.

To be in a good position to graduate, a student entering grade 12 should have:

- a) amassed at least 60 course credits

- b) completed their required Provincial Exams in Math 10, Science 10, English 10, and Social Studies 11 or First Nations 12
- c) passed all required graduation courses for grades 10 and 11
- d) have all S's and/or G's on report card records to date, and no more than 4 N's
- e) a good standing with respect to fees and/or replacement costs
- f) maintained the outlined attendance and promptness record
- g) maintained required behavioural and social standards as outlined in policy

Students enrolled in the School Completion Certificate Program (SCCP) are not required to meet conditions a), b), and c). Instead, they should be meeting the goals outlined in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Those students not meeting these expectations early in the school year may have their opportunity to attend the Grad Winter Formal removed.

A final review of graduation standing will occur in early May of each school year. Parents of those students who are not in a position to meet graduations standards will be informed in writing. Parents are cautioned **NOT** to make arrangements for graduation activities for student's identified as being "at risk" of not graduating. The school will not be held responsible for any arrangements made by parents for these identified students.

Students who are excluded from school sanctioned graduation events have the option of filing a written appeal to the Principal outlining any extenuating circumstances that may have caused the student to be in a non-graduating position. The Principal will then consult with a committee made up of graduating students, staff, and parents, to make a final decision regarding their participation in the graduation ceremonies. The intention is to make this final decision no later than one week prior to graduation. In some instances, the school's *School Based Team* and/or *School Planning Council* may be consulted.