

February 12, 2024

To Our Graduates and Families,

Convocation is a special day in the academic life of students and their families. After years of hard work and dedication, graduates receive their well-deserved high school diplomas. Wearing the traditional cap and gown in front of friends and family members is a culminating moment for students. Convocation is also about celebrating achievements and proudly reflecting on individual journeys. Graduates want to share the moment with the people who have supported them and who have been a big part of their lives.

For the past four years, schools in River East Transcona have been reimagining convocation ceremonies. All six senior years schools are committed to celebrating graduates with an inclusive, accessible, personal, school-based convocation. Feedback collected from students, families, and staff has been increasingly positive about these celebrations; it allows us to reflect on the events and consider changes, so each year provides the best possible experience.

A committee with representatives from all senior years schools is working together to ensure this convocation is as wonderful for our Grade 12 students as it was last year. Many school-based factors, including graduation class size, will be considered as the committee plans.

Further information regarding the specifics of convocation will be sent later in the school year from each school's principal; but rest assured that it will include caps and gowns, scholarships, diplomas, and lots of opportunities for photos and celebrations. Please contact your school principal with any questions.

Graduates and families will also have the opportunity for further festivities through a Safe Grad at an outside venue. These events are organized by parents, so each school will need parent volunteers to plan them. Please note that these events follow RETSD Policy IKFC—Graduation: Non-School-Sponsored Activities. If your school has not yet done so, they will be sending information for a parent meeting to explain the process and seek chairs, co-chairs, fundraising co-ordinators, and other volunteers. Please contact your school principal for further information.

We hope your graduate has a joyful and successful final semester in high school, and we look forward to celebrating their accomplishments in June!

Sincerely,



Sandra Herbst
Superintendent/CEO