

J. R. Robson School

Commencement

2024-2025



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FORWARD

J.R. Robson Commencement Ceremony is an **academic** celebration. It gives us opportunity to acknowledge you, the student, for your successful completion of high school, and the anticipated achievement of an Alberta High School Diploma, Certificate of Achievement or Certificate of School Completion.

To make your Commencement a meaningful event **requires your active participation** by:

- being informed about diploma requirements and ensuring that you have passed or are registered in all the necessary courses.
- attending the Commencement meetings.
- providing input as requested.
- volunteering to help, either on a short term or long term basis.
- cooperating with the student and parent Commencement committees.

COMMENCEMENT RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

We believe the Commencement Ceremony is recognition by J. R. Robson School that a student has the potential to achieve the necessary requirements to qualify for a High School Diploma. That means that the student must be achieving or have achieved a passing grade in the requirements to attain an Alberta Education Diploma

- In order to qualify as a participant, the student shall be successfully completing (be in a position to graduate in courses as of June 6th of their graduation year) Alberta Education Diploma program requirements.
- The student shall be enrolled at JR Robson School in their chosen program during their grade 12 year. The student shall have completed 90 credits of which a minimum of 20 credits are taken in their grade 12 year at JR Robson School. Students may use Off Campus courses (Work Experience, RAP or Green Certificate) and Video Conferencing classes to help reach the 30 level course or credit requirements for graduation. Courses taken from the Learning HUB are not counted towards the residency requirement if they are not due to a timetabling conflict at J.R.Robson.
- Students registered at the Learning HUB must have these **completed and submitted** by January 15, 2025 for all assignments and January 22, 2025 for all exams for Semester 1 courses and June 11, 2025 for all assignments and June 18, 2025 for all exams for all Semester 2 courses. Course completion must occur in the semester of registration. Work Experience documents must be submitted to the Work Experience Coordinator no later than June 6, 2025.

OR

In order to earn an Alberta High School Certificate of Achievement or Certificate of School Completion, the student must meet the set of program requirements set by Alberta Education.

The finalized Commencement list will be determined after the June 6, 2024 deadline.

VALEDICTORIAN:

The honor of being the J. R. Robson High School Graduation Valedictorian is bestowed on the student with the highest academic standing (as of the last day of critical content in second semester). If two students are within 0.5 of a percent from one another, co-valedictorians will be named.

Academic standing will be based on class awarded marks for both Semesters 1 and 2 from the following courses:

One of: English 30-1, 30-2, (or Francais 30, 30-2) and four of the following:

- Mathematics 30-1
- Mathematics 30-2
- Mathematics 31
- Science 30
- Biology 30
- Chemistry 30
- Physics 30
- Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2
- Any one language other than the one used above at the Grade 12 level

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

The Commencement Ceremony is the responsibility of J. R. Robson School. The program components are developed by the School.

Commencement 2025

Thursday, June 26

Tentative Schedule

Class Picture- JRR @ 12:30 pm JR Robson High School

Commencement Ceremonies- @ 1:30 pm TBA

Grand March – to follow directly after Commencement Ceremonies

GRAD FUNDRAISER

Those with outstanding fees will not be able to take part in the commencement ceremony. This includes any school fees, library fees, shop fees, grad fees or any other fees incurred at the school.

The **Grad fundraiser is used** to offset the costs involved with the school Commencement Ceremony. Costs can include the facility rental and decorating, printing costs, porta potty rentals, AV rentals or requirements, etc. A detailed budget is available for every student and parent and will be distributed at a parent/graduate meeting once some of the decisions have been made. Students are expected to participate in a fundraising activity. Each student will be expected to raise a set amount of money. This value will be determined by the budget, with the fundraising committee trying to have a near zero balance at the end of Commencement. For students choosing not to participate in the fundraising activity, they will have the option to pay a flat fee equal to what is expected from each student who participates in the fundraiser. For example, if the fundraising committee determines that students are to sell enough merchandise so that each student profits \$100 to the budget, a student may opt out of the fundraiser with a single payment of \$100. Likewise, if a student does not sell their required amount as set out by the fundraising committee, the balance will need to be rectified with a prorated opt out option. The type of fundraising activity will be determined by the Fundraising Committee. The grad fundraiser opt out payment can be made by cash or cheque, payable to J. R. Robson School.

PARENT COMMITTEES

The **Parent Committees** are groups of parents who volunteer to coordinate all activities that take place before, during and after the Commencement Ceremony. This would include the decorations, fundraising, and set up / take down in the facilities. It is important that there are enough parent volunteers to make the activities successful. An organizational meeting to form the Parent Committees will occur in the fall of the school year. The chairperson of each committee will be a parent of the graduates. Each family of a graduate are expected to volunteer and work on one of the parent committees. Students of the present Commencement class are expected to be involved in the various committees and work closely with the parent chairperson. Students must attend all meetings of the committee they sign up for.

Parent Committees

Decorations:

- Ensure that appropriate decorations are made available for the Commencement Ceremony based on the student chosen theme.
- Stage risers and chairs for graduates (on stage) will be supplied

Fundraising:

- Determine fundraising activities
- Organize and implement the activities

Set up

- Organize and assist with the set up and take down of the stage, chairs and tables at the Commencement Ceremony and the Banquet (Regional Center).
- Transitioning between Ceremony and Banquet

Take Down:

- Organize and assist with the take down of the stage, chairs and tables at the Commencement Ceremony and the Banquet (Regional Center).

Audio/Visual:

- Obtain quotes for photographers for the ceremony.
- Liaison with photographer
- Obtain quotes for live streaming if wanted by the graduates.
- Liaison with live streaming company

STUDENT COMMITTEES

Theme:

- Consult with your classmates about the theme that exemplifies your class and one that speeches can be developed around. Come up with three choices and organize a vote.

Music:

- Choose music for the processional up to the stage at the beginning of the ceremonies and the recessional at the end of the ceremonies. The music needs to be dignified, but also reflect your class and your theme. Music needs to be determined by May 1st. Have a dedicated copy of music to play during the Grand March.

Video:

- Develop a video showcasing the original personalities of all graduates. This needs to be started in the first semester. Share with Mrs. Polishuk by June 1st. The video must be comprised of school appropriate footage, the committee may be asked to change the video if the footage is inappropriate.

Slide Show:

- Develop a slide show of the graduates that includes their grad photo and 3 or 4 other photos of the grad throughout their years. Share with Mrs. Polishuk by June 1st.

Program:

- Determine with Mrs. Polishuk speakers who will be present at the Ceremony.
- Ask teacher representatives and parent representatives if they would like to participate in the Ceremony and Banquet programs – communicate this to Mrs. Polishuk
- Design a cover for your exercises, and help in the writing, printing and overall production of the program by June 1st.

Grad-Wear:

- Develop a choice of grad wear, organize the ordering and delivery with Mrs. Polishuk.

Yearbook Write-ups:

- Work with Mrs. Hart to get the grad write-ups done and into the yearbook. Will have to collect write-ups, enter into the computer, and help with proof-reading by March 30th

Fundraiser:

- Help on the day the fundraising product get delivered to the school to help organize/ or hand out the product

Introduction Write-ups:

- Collect responses from students pertaining to how they want to be introduced
- Provide a digital copy of introductions to Mrs. Polishuk by June 1st.

Decoration Set-up:

- Help on the days before grad helping to set up the decorations.

JR Robson School

Commencement Ceremony

2025

Declaration

I have read and understand the graduation/valedictorian requirements of J. R. Robson School and what is expected for a student to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Student Name _____

Must be signed and returned to Mrs. Polishuk once you have read the requirements. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call at 780-853-4177.