

Burnaby Mountain Secondary School

VALEDICTORIAN SELECTION PROCESS **2024**

The individual who is chosen for the honored position of Valedictorian is traditionally an exemplary student overall and an outstanding citizen of the school; one who will accept the position with pride and will prepare and deliver the Valedictorian Speech with skill and confidence.

Guidelines for Student Candidacy

- Student must be in good academic standing, maintain excellent attendance, and must have consistent G's in work habits.
- Continued and varied involvement in student activities throughout their high school years (sports, music, drama, debating, leadership etc.)
- Representative of the Burnaby Mountain community and ideals; an excellent citizen who lives by the motto of "Respect, Excellence, Responsibility"
- Articulate public speaker

Please note:

A list of approved candidates will be generated by the school administrators.

Guidelines & Timeline

If a successful candidate does not meet guidelines, another candidate (most likely the second-place candidate) will be chosen.

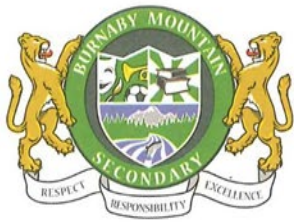
March 4th	Nomination packages available in the office and accessible electronically in grade 12 Teams group. Will also be mentioned in the student bulletin, through PA announcements, and via Grade 12 teachers.
April 5th	Completed nomination packages returned to Ms. Binning in the office by 3:05pm.
April 8th	Approved candidates will be contacted by Ms. Binning and will attend a mandatory information session at 2:30pm in the office. (Students will be scheduled a time during Flex the following week April 9 th -12 th to record a 1-2-minute speech with Ms. Patel to present at a grad "virtual assembly" to your grad class on April 25th .) Topic of Speech: Why YOU should be Valedictorian. What is your message to the Grad class?



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April 25th	Date of Valedictorian Video shown in all grade 12 classes, Period 1. <u>Ballot voting in classes (+ grad song)</u> to follow directly after speeches shown.
	Announcement of the Valedictorian over the PA at the end of the day. Please listen for this.
	<p>***Note: Chosen Valedictorian must meet with Ms. Binning to go over logistics and guidelines at the end of the school day (unless other arrangements are made).</p> <p>You are to work alongside an English teacher to oversee the English, grammar etc. in your speech. Please let Ms. Binning know who this English teacher is.</p>
April 25th	Ms. Binning will contact parents/guardians of Valedictorian and the Valedictorian, who will determine a date to meet with administrators and review the “School’s Code of Conduct,” which outlines responsibilities and guidelines.
May 3rd	Completed, word-processed <u>final</u> copy of speech due to Ms. Binning
	Valedictorian to meet with Ms. Binning to discuss speech, make necessary changes, helpful hints etc.
May 6th - May 10th (Date to be confirmed)	Rehearsal of speech in front of Staff SLC Committee (Ms. Binning to inform SLC Committee of this date). Speech amended if/as seen fit. Candidate may need to present again to the SLC following amendments.
	The SLC to go over ANY changes from this point onwards.
May 16th	Final typed Valedictorian speech to be given to Ms. Binning with finalized changes.
May 22nd	Speech delivered in person at School Leaving Ceremony at SFU.

***Please note that as a Valedictorian, you have a responsibility to honour the school goals of **respect, excellence, and responsibility**, and act as an ambassador for the school **and** the community. If you do not meet the guidelines, or do not follow your speech, the microphone will be cut.



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Class Valedictorian 2024 Application Form

Student Candidate Information:

Student name:	Cell phone number:
Student email:	Home phone number:
Parent/Guardian names:	Parent/Guardian phone number:

Student Transcript:

Please attach a copy of your most recent school transcript (available in MyEd).

Teacher Recommendation:

**Recommendation must be from a grade 12 teacher from the current school year (semester 1 or semester 2).*

Teacher Name: _____ Signature: _____

Statement of Interest: (Why do you want to be Valedictorian? – attach separate paper if more space required)



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Co-curricular/ Extra-Curricular Involvement:

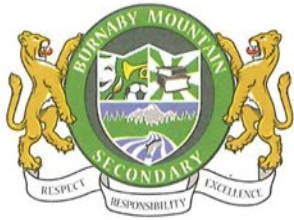
	Co-curricular/ Extra-Curricular Involvement:	Length of Involvement	Number of Hours	Sponsor Teacher	Sponsor Teacher's Signature
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

Description of Public Speaking Experiences:

I commit to accept the position with pride and will prepare and deliver the Valedictorian Speech with skill and confidence. I will represent the Burnaby Mountain community and its ideals of "Respect, Excellence, and Responsibility".

Student signature: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

**This form must be submitted to Ms. Binning no later than
April 5th at 3:05pm.**



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Qualities of an excellent valedictorian speech:

Valedictorian to meet with **Ms. Binning**

- Know your audience. Speak to your audience
- Tug at a variety of emotions:
 - Reminisce
 - Cry
 - Make people verklempt
 - Laugh (some comedy perhaps? Appropriate of course)
 - Inspiring
 - Touching
 - etc.
- Thank those that helped along the way/made a difference to grade 12s:
 - Address the wider audience – all peers, not just a select few/cliue.
 - Mention parents/guardians/loved ones (all – not just your own)
 - Mentions staff/teachers/admin – people that helped you through school
 - Make mention of memories from the last 5 years (think about using a variety of events – debate club, sports team, grad spirit week, memories, etc.)
 - Avoid personal/inside jokes with friends
 - DO NOTs:
 - DO NOT USE SPECIFIC NAMES OF PEOPLE, STUDENTS/TEACHERS
 - NO OFFENSIVE GESTURES, inside jokes etc.
 - DO NOT SAY ANYTHING OFFENSIVE (EVEN IN HUMOUR)
 - DO NOT SAY ANYTHING THAT IS SEXUAL IN NATURE
- Touch base on issues (that your grad class can all relate to) that have affected your last 12/13 years in school.
- Add a quote?
- End with a bang / powerful closing statement
- Get help/advice from English teachers with style, grammar etc.