

Grad Committee Meeting
May 26, 2020

Grad Committee Chair: Pat Neumeier's Report

1. Grad Decorator, Photographer and Caterer have be rebooked for September 26th. What this day will look like is unknown at the moment with all the uncertainty, however there will be something for the 2020 Grad Class on this day. Continue to plan banquet dinner and dance in the field house after ceremony.
2. Facebook Page, Not all grads and parents are on this page and information is being missed by some families. Pat will continue to post on page but send information to the school for distribution as well. Des Nolan will be sending out an email regarding grad information in the next few days, he will let people know about the page and ask them to please join.
3. Grad 2020 set up of banquet and clean up Sunday. It was decided since we will not be spending all of the monies initially intended for this year's ceremony that we would ask the Class of 2021 to set up for the banquet on Saturday and then come back on the Sunday to clean up. This is a great way for them to start fundraising for their Grad.
4. We cancelled the extra chairs from the city so we are saving \$2929.50 minus a 5% cancellation fee of \$146.48. (Des Nolan will be calling to speak to company about the 5%) The Multiplex has 498 grey chairs and 152 Black chairs (Black chairs for the stage) EPC has 200 folding black chairs that maybe used.

EPC Administration:

1. May 20th Superintendent Neil O'Shea sent out a letter to the grad class and their families. (See below)
2. There will be some kind of celebration on September 26, 2020 we are hopeful that it will be a ceremony with banquet etc., however we have been discussing different options just incase.
3. **GRAD PHOTOS** there has been a date given to the school for those grads that did not get photos done yet (not retakes) please call the school for an appointment time. There is only one day so if this day does not work, you will have to contact Lifetouch for an appointment in the city.
4. **GRAD FEES:** Grad fees are still due before the end of June. These fees are still important to collect. We will be having some kind of celebration.

Fundraising: Nadine Tomuschat

Thank you to Nadine for all her hard work collecting items, sanitizing items, collecting money and delivering all the items via social distancing. We made \$9320.00 on the online auction.

There was concern express about the fundraising money not being used for the 2020 graduating class if for some reason we cannot go forward with something on the 26th of September. Des Nolan is going to contact Superintendent Neil O'Shea to confirm what our options are in case the 26th is cancelled by AHS or Alberta Education. Can we as a committee continue to plan something once the threat of Covid-19 has passed?

Budget Lead: Christa Wilkinson

Current bank account balance is \$ 4364.00 + the auction money of \$9320.00 for a total of \$ 14899.00. We are saving money by having a smaller venue, no chair rental for Edmonton smaller decorating area.

Banquet lead: Val head/ Leanne Burritt

1. Val will contact Derko's Catering to confirm last possible day for cancellation.
2. With a smaller venue we may be looking at the possibility of only 4 tickets per Graduate which means our catering budget maybe smaller as well.
3. Tickets and programs have been quote by Athabasca Home Town Printing. \$189.00. Val will contact printers to find out last day for cancellation.

Decorating Committee: Laurie Lohouse/Darlene Bertin/Joleen Schulte

Laurie will contact Darlene Bertin to ask Jessie Congdon, our decorator, for a new quote due to the fact we are no longer using the hockey arena.

Facility Lead; Rod Cunanan

Rod was unable to attend however the field house has been booked for the weekend.

Date of next meeting June 16th 6:00 pm.

****Please understand that there are going to be limitations on what we can do. Grad will not be exactly the same as prior years. We are doing our best as a committee to plan something special for our Grads. With that being said, there may be limitations on how many family members can attend. We appreciate your understanding and we will keep you all informed as best we can.****



May 20, 2020

Dear Grade 12 students and families,

Aspen View Public Schools is extremely proud of the hard work done by this year's Grade 12 students to achieve their high school graduation, and we are all saddened and disappointed that the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of graduation ceremonies scheduled for this spring. Graduation is an important accomplishment for students, families and educators alike, and deserving of appropriate recognition.

Each high school within Aspen View will be setting a new date for graduation ceremonies to be held in the Fall of 2020. We are hopeful that the COVID-19 pandemic will be sufficiently resolved to allow each school to plan a graduation celebration that they feel is appropriate; however, all graduation events will still be contingent upon, and respect any restrictions in place from the Chief Medical Officer of Health in regard to social distancing and large gatherings.

School administrators, in collaboration with graduation committees, will plan for graduation events in the Fall of 2020 that include, at minimum:

- Commencement ceremonies (presentation of diplomas/certificates)
- Formal presentations and speeches
- Light refreshments such as coffee, juice, appetizers, etc.

Again, these events are contingent upon and must respect any restrictions in place from the Chief Medical Officer of Health. As such, attendance at these events may be limited. I have advised that once schools have determined a new date for the graduation events described above, that these events not be postponed further.

I have directed school administrators to continue working with student grad committees and parent groups to tentatively plan, if desired, additional graduation celebrations, such as dances, banquets, etc. However, I must stress that planning of this nature should be done with extreme caution, as no event will be allowed to take place that contravenes any restrictions regarding social distancing and large gatherings.

Again, we remain hopeful that the COVID-19 pandemic will be sufficiently resolved to allow each graduation ceremony to proceed as originally planned. It is our great desire to see our graduating Grade 12 students enjoy the celebration they have worked hard to earn. However, Aspen View Public School has an obligation to protect the health and safety of students, families, staff and the general public; and respect any restrictions that may be in place.



Aspen View

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We appreciate your cooperation as we navigate a very uncertain and rapidly evolving situation. More specific information regarding your child's Fall 2020 graduation events will be forthcoming from your child's school.

Sincerely,

Neil O'Shea, Superintendent
Aspen View Public Schools